

IRELAND'S PAST AND FUTURE

Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet Treats the Subject in an Interesting Manner.

Home Rule Will be Granted to the Demand of a United Irish Party.

Dr. Thomas Addis Emmet, President of the Irish National Federation of New York, contributes an able and highly interesting article to the current number of Donahoe's Magazine, and entitled "Ireland's Past and Future."

After dealing at length with the sad story of misrule in Ireland, Dr. Emmet refers to the question of Independence, and says, "that a separation from England, under present circumstances, with a reduced population and lack of all resources, would prove a terrible if not a fatal ordeal for Ireland." He regards it as inevitable that, sooner or later, England must grant Home Rule, and, in doing so, must afterwards assist Ireland financially and make an honest effort to keep the peace.

He answers the accusation of the Orangemen, who oppose Home Rule, on the grounds that the Catholic majority would inaugurate an era of persecution against Protestantism, in the following manner:

"For the past two hundred years, in the Catholic portion of Ireland, the question of religion has never been raised, and is a dead issue so far as this issue lies between individuals and in the selection for office. If any discrimination is exercised it is against those of their own faith. In such a community a Protestant of fair dealing, and who in any way identifies himself with the interests of his neighborhood, is always looked up to and trusted by the people with the management of their affairs. No better proof can be advanced than the existing proportion of Protestants to the Catholics among the Irish members of Parliament. It is unnecessary to dwell on the want of harmony and the condition existing to the contrary wherever the Orangemen are in the ascendancy."

Referring to the question of over-taxation, he points out that the cost of local government in Ireland has been proved to be about five dollars per capita, while in England it is a little less than three dollars. With regard to the charge of the London Times that the excessive taxation is due to the great consumption of whiskey, he instances that quite recently a proposal was mooted in England to increase the tax in Ireland on whiskey, as the revenue from this source was not in proportion to that of Scotland or England.

The article concludes with the following somewhat significant statement in regard to the present condition of affairs:

"Home Rule will doubtless be granted, but it delayed too long the Irish race will have become exterminated or scattered over the earth, never to return, and Ireland will remain but in name, with the loss of her own people, traditions, literature and language. The time has arrived for final action, and it is yet not too late to obtain all that is needed if the Irish people will unite in one common interest, and this action will compel the British Government to act promptly, which it has never done for Ireland but under pressure.

"The wishes or welfare of any one individual, or even of every man having the slightest pretence to leadership should not, if adverse, have the weight of a feather in the balance; all should be forced aside, if necessary, as being of the most trivial importance to the success of the cause. During the past differences which have existed, there have been faults on all sides, and all have been deficient in duty to some degree, by losing sight of the common object. But, in truth, these issues have long been dead, so far as any good could be accomplished, and to keep them alive longer is incompatible with the present duty of the Irish people. The man who, as a leader, will now attempt to revive these issues is laboring for his own ends, and is no longer trustworthy. There remains but one course to follow, and this every honest man must take if he is sincere in the wish to advance Ireland's interest. He must heartily endorse the action of the Race Convention, recently held in Dublin, and realize that the rule of the majority must govern; unless this principle be accepted no success can be gained in any political movement.

"The future of Ireland must therefore rest chiefly with the Irish people, who are still at home, and by whose influence this object can be shaped for good only through unity and a singleness of purpose among themselves."

A BIGOT ANSWERED.

In one of the newspaper offices here, says the Washington Church News, just as all the "copy" was in and things were slack, one of the men commenting on an item began berating the Catholics as priest-ridden. A woman writer was preparing for home when she turned and asked: "What do you mean by priest-ridden?"

"I mean that the Catholics support a body of lazy priests far in excess of the demand; that they have them not only for use, but for ornament, such as monks; I mean that they are priest-ridden in every sense; that they are the very antithesis of plain Protestantism. You cannot walk out without meeting a priest."

"Do you seriously think what your words imply? I wonder if you would care to know the truth?"

"Most assuredly; I would be glad if you could show otherwise," said the man, with the air of tolerance which characterizes a cock-sure bigot. "The whole world knows the truth of what I say."

"The world may know, but statistics do not," said the lady. Then turning

the leaves of the last census reports, she said: "I find here that the Catholics are the largest religious denomination in the country. It is shown that for over six millions of people they have 6,012 priests, or one priest, including bishops and monks, for each 1,027 Catholic people in the United States. I find that the Baptists have two million members and 15,401 ordained ministers, or one minister for every 139 members. The Methodist Episcopal Church numbers a little over a million and a half. They support 9,261 ordained ministers, or one to each 181 members. The Presbyterians have a minister to care for each 117 members. Every 107 Congregationalists have a minister to keep them in the straight and narrow path."

"Will you let me see those statistics?" "Certainly. 'Let the galled jade wince, our withers are unwrung.' When it comes to be priest-ridden it would seem that plain Protestants have to carry about ten times more weight than the Catholics."

One of the boys, who evidently enjoyed the chagrin of the A.P.A. disputant, suggested to him that possibly it was "weight for age."

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Monitor, of San Francisco, in referring to the struggle of the Catholics in Manitoba, says:

"The Canadian government is still aiding and abetting the Protestant majority in Manitoba to deprive Catholics of their just rights. The press dispatches are of course misleading. The Catholics of Canada are fighting for nothing more or less than the Catholics of the United States had to battle for, viz., constitutional rights. They would be craven cowards were they satisfied with anything less. By the articles of federation they have a right to separate schools and they should not take any compromise."

This is an opinion which is shared by all patriotic men whose judgment is not seared by political bias or personal ambition. The so-called "settlement" is the fruitful result of vacillating Catholics pandering to the good opinions of non-Catholics.

There was a large and enthusiastic meeting of the citizens of Boston held in Faneuil Hall last week, for the purpose of expressing sympathy with the project of restoring to Ireland the millions of dollars exacted from her by England in overtaxation. Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., was the principal speaker of the evening. The following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, the citizens of Boston, assembled in Faneuil Hall, representative of various religious beliefs and all shades of political opinion, having considered the question of the unjust taxation of Ireland by Great Britain, as reported by a British Royal Commission (and listened to the addresses of the Hon. John E. Redmond, M.P., the Hon. Richard H. Dana, chairman, the Hon. William A. Bancroft, ex-Mayor of Cambridge, the Rev. Elmer H. Capen, president of Tufts College, and Mr. Gamaliel Bradford), hereby resolve:

That this meeting of the citizens of Boston adopt the resolution passed at the recent public meeting addressed by Lord Castletown in Cork; and therefore be it resolved, That we hereby express our sense of the enormous national importance of the findings of the Royal Commission on the financial relations between Great Britain and Ireland, and declare our belief that the future prosperity of Ireland and the social happiness and welfare of her people are vitally concerned in securing such a readjustment of the present system of taxation as will give effective relief to the Irish taxpayer from a burden which that report conclusively proves to be excessive and unfair.

Resolved, That we believe it to be the duty of the British Government to take immediate steps to give effect by remedial legislation to the conclusions suggested by the report of the Royal Commission.

Resolved, That we earnestly hope the Irish representatives, irrespective of party, will take the most effective measures possible to impress upon the British Parliament the vast importance of this subject until the question is settled on a just and equitable basis."

Walter Lecky, in referring to the question of "Discrimination against Catholic authors," writes as follows: "If a book dies speedily it has not the fitness to live."

"We should be above begging anything on the score of our Catholicity. Do good work and a pinch of snuff for the critics! The true critic will weigh your thoughts, not your personality. The praise of the crowd is like the snowflake on the river, a moment bright, then lost forever. The young writer needs a motto. Here is mine: 'Ne cede malis, sed contra audentior ito' which runs: Do not yield to misfortunes; on the contrary, go more boldly to meet them."

Such a noble spirit of independence is inspiring to read, but when applied to the actual conditions existing on this continent, as was very well pointed out in a recent issue of the True Witness, there is no ambition for Catholic writers to work if their co-religionists do not recognize and encourage them in their undertakings.

Independence, as the Scottish bard puts it, "for the sake of independence," is a very pleasant sentiment, but not worldly, selfish, or steeped in the practicalism of this great nineteenth century. The lives of our great public men bear ample testimony to the fact that at some stage of their career the friendly hand, the good word spoken, or the meridian of pen into the ink, has served to assist clever men to place their feet upon the first round of the ladder, without which assistance their identity would have been very much circumscribed.

As it is in the arena of literature, and in public life, so it is in the great mart of commerce. A friend at the meetings of a directorate of a bank, or for that mat-

ter an obliging acquaintance, has on many occasions, even in the history of the operations of firms whose towering buildings and their well stocked apartments, with the necessary adjunct of a palatial residence, bear testimony to the fact that self-help alone may achieve greatness sometimes; but, generally speaking, never.

Sister St. Therese, superioress of the Rideau Street Convent, Ottawa, will celebrate the Golden Jubilee of her profession, in the month of June. Preparations are now under way to commemorate the event in a worthy manner.

The New York Sun says that Archbishop Corrigan of New York will be created a Cardinal.

The citizens of New York were given an opportunity last week to judge the oratorical merits of two able Irishmen, Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., and Hon. Bourke Cockran, both of whom addressed the monster meeting organized to interest Americans in the cause of amnesty to Irish political prisoners.

It is said that Ivory, prior to his departure for New York, informed some friends that the Government had paid him the sum of \$50,000 as compensation for his arrest and the expenses incident to his defense. A Scotland Yard official was questioned by a reporter of London daily on the subject and confirmed Ivory's statement.

The Boston Republic says: The character of the cablegrams that are coming from London, purporting to describe the attitude of the Pope on the Manitoba school question, is sufficient to make intelligent readers wary of them. The Holy Father would not be apt to inform the English correspondents in Rome of the nature of instructions intended for the Canadian hierarchy; and there is good reason for suspecting that Premier Laurier and his supporters have established a literary bureau over in London in the hope that the "settlement" of the Manitoba question is viewed more favorably in Rome than in Quebec, where, as Archbishop Begin says, no bishop has approved it and no bishop will or can approve it.

The same may be said of the correspondents of Ontario newspapers in this province, who daily dispatch the most sensational statements regarding the attitude of the Quebec bishops on the same subject.

Under the Mercier Government a Commissioner was appointed to inquire into the Jury System of the State of the neighboring Union and a heavy charge appeared in the public accounts for the service; but we still await the improvement in our own jury system, which was to result from the enquiry. Goodness knows there is tremendous room for the improvement! The whole thing would seem to be done at present by the "rule of thumb."

President Harper, of the University of Chicago, has announced that Lady Aberdeen, wife of the Governor-General of Canada, will be convocation orator at the university exercises on April 1st, enjoying the distinction of being the first woman named for such an occasion in this country.

For lessons in Municipal Government our City Fathers might with good results apply to the Westmount Council. In this thriving suburb the taxation rate has been reduced from 6 to 5 mills, and yet during the past year the Town has purchased a large tract of land and converted it into a public park and has assumed control of the scavenging. The Town has an efficient fire and police department, which is well equipped, a splendid Town Hall with a business-like staff in addition to the usual Municipal work the clearing of snow from the streets and sidewalks is done by the Town. The Council has now under consideration a proposition to erect a lighting plant and contemplates the opening of a public library. It may be mentioned that the sale of liquor is not permitted within the confines of Westmount. An English writer has told us that Montreal is "moving out of Back Streets." Doubtless, but, judged by Westmount's standard, there is considerable "moving" to be done yet.

What is called a Christian theatre will soon be opened in Paris for the purpose of producing artistic, literary, and moral plays which, it is announced Catholics may attend without having their faith insulted.

Lobbying with members is a felony according to a bill passed by the Tennessee House, and is punishable by from two to five years' imprisonment. Such a bill passed by the Canadian Government and the Provincial Legislatures would be a creditable proceeding. Recently a local lawyer told me that he had a small bill before the Private Bills Committee at Quebec. He "lobbied" with sufficient of the members to secure the passing of his bill a certainty, but to his intense disgust when his bill came up it was thrown out. Investigation showed that an opponent of the bill had seen the members after the lawyer and did more "lobbying." And this is the manner in which the intelligent (?) legislators of the country work.

The London correspondent of the Sun says:—The Dillon faction of the Irish party are afflicted with such a want of funds as may prevent them keeping their full strength in the House throughout the session. Some twenty-four Dillonites require aid from the party funds, involving a drain of about £4,000 per session. About fourteen of Mr. Healy's supporters require similar help, but the Healy supplies are proportionately greater than those under Mr. Dillon's deposit. No contributions of consequence come now from America.

It is now certain that there will be no commutation of the sentence of eight months' imprisonment imposed on Earl Scott for libelling her son-in-law, Earl Russell. Earl Cadogan and other of her friends have sought to obtain her release, but they have failed to shake the Home Secretary's decision not to set her

at liberty. Every accommodation is furnished her in the jail. Her room was specially fitted up for her, and her meals are furnished by an outside caterer. The only punishment she undergoes is being deprived of her liberty.

That woman is now, as she has always been, a actor, more or less, in public legislation is evident in high social circles in England.

The revival of political salon receptions is a feature of the present London season. The Duchess of Devonshire, the Marchioness of Londonderry, Countess Derby, Countess Spencer and Lady Tweedmouth are already holding these receptions, where, combined with social pleasures, plans are laid or discussed for the benefit of one or the other of the political parties.

In looking for the cause of the financial failure of Grand Opera in New York, says a correspondent in the N. Y. Sun, one turns first to the salaries of the singers, about which so many stories are told. There have been performances at the Metropolitan Opera House where the expenses represented such a sum that no profit to the management seemed possible. People came to the conclusion that the reports of what the singers received must have been exaggerated. Mme. Nordica, in her dispute with Jean de Reszke last fall said that for a single performance of "Romeo" he had received \$5,000. This was afterward denied, but Mr. De Reszke's salary at the opera house to-day is \$1,200 with 25 per cent. of the receipts, above \$6,000. That may or may not on particular occasions have amounted to as much as \$5,000. Mme. Nordica said it had, and Mr. Grau said it hadn't. At that same performance Mme. Nordica probably received about \$1,400, and Edward Reszke got, according to Mme. Nordica's statement, nearly \$2,000.

ENGLAND'S EGYPTIAN WARD.

THE ANGLo-EGYPTIAN EXPEDITION TO DONGOLA.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS BEACH OPINION THAT THE OCCUPATION OF EGYPT BY GREAT BRITAIN HAS BEEN PROLONGED BECAUSE FRANCE HAD NOT ALLOWED THE BRITISH TO HAVE AS FREE A HAND AS WAS NECESSARY."

LONDON, February 5.—In the House of Commons to-day Sir Michael Hicks Beach, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced that a further advance of Egyptian troops would be made toward Khartoum next season. As regarded the action of the Egyptian tribunals, Sir Michael Hicks Beach continued, Great Britain would not be worried out from her policy when her mind was made up. He then proceeded to move a resolution granting the sum of £708,000 to meet the total cost of the Anglo-Egyptian expedition to Dongola, including the maintenance of the garrisons at Snakin and elsewhere in the Sudan, and the Indian troops in Egypt, which Great Britain would pay. The action of the mixed court of appeal in upsetting the judgment of the Egyptian Public Debt Commission in regard to setting aside certain Egyptian funds toward the expense of the Dongola expedition, he said, was calculated to prolong British occupation of Egypt. Great Britain had advanced the money to pay Egypt's share of the expenses, leaving Great Britain and Egypt to mutually decide when the sum should be repaid.

In the course of his remarks, Sir Michael said that the occupation of Egypt by Great Britain had been prolonged because France had not allowed the British to have as free a hand as was necessary. Great Britain, he added, intended to occupy Egypt until the country was able to do without her. Moreover, it would be necessary to reconsider the power and authority of the Egyptian mixed tribunals and to decide whether they should be allowed to interfere in such affairs as the cost of the recent Anglo-Egyptian expedition.

Right Hon. John Morley (Liberal) said that the remarks of the Chancellor of the Exchequer amounted to a challenge to France and Russia to take issue with Great Britain in the latter's Egyptian policy. In view of the sensitive condition of Europe at the present time he declared, nothing more rash could be uttered.

Sir William Harcourt, the leader of the opposition, expressed regret at the unwise language and gratuitous provocation of the Powers which characterized the remarks of Sir Michael Hicks Beach.

George N. Curzon, Under Foreign Secretary, sought to minimize the effect of Sir Michael's language, and denied that it was any way intended as a menace to France.

Henry M. Stanley, the African explorer, Unionist member for North Lambeth, said that Great Britain was only doing in Egypt what Russia was doing in Siberia, and France was doing between the Senegal and the Niger rivers in Africa.

After some further discussion the resolution submitted by Sir Michael Hicks Beach was adopted by a vote of 169 to 57.

In the lobby of the House there was much comment upon the anti-French tone of Sir Michael Hicks Beach, and surprise was expressed by a number of members that he should have spoken as he did.

The speech was thought to have such significance that the full text was telegraphed to Paris.

New York, Feb. 7.—Correspondents of the leading papers pay special attention to the speech of Sir Michael Hicks Beach in the House of Commons on Friday.

In his special cable to the Sun, Mr. Chamberlain says:—"The Egyptian situation was at last put before the world in plain language by the Chancellor of the Exchequer in his speech announcing the intentions of the British Government. He spoke with unqualified contempt of the decision of the mixed tribunal ordering the return to the Treasury of the money advanced for the Nile expedition, and forthwith declared that Great Britain was

fully determined to take Khartoum. Moreover he gave notice to the world with significant emphasis that when England made up her mind what was the right policy in regard to Egypt, she would not be "worried out of it" by such difficulties as a refusal of money. His language is already causing great irritation and much bellicose language in various places on the Continent, but whether it will have an unfavorable influence upon the moment in regard to Turkish affairs remains to be seen. The situation in a way including the Cretan difficulty and the Grecian-Turkish quarrel, will demand the highest diplomatic skill, and, perhaps, sharp physical action within the next few days for its successful handling."

Mr. Harold Frederic, in his special cable to the Times, says: "Sir William Harcourt is not alone in the belief that it will be estimated as a downright defiance of France, and will prove displeasing to Russia. This untimely utterance, which practically says, 'hands off' to France, however cleverly it may subsequently be softened and explained away, may prove to have an upsetting effect on the conference of the Ambassadors at Constantinople."

Mr. Isaac N. Ford says of the speech in his special cable to the Tribune: "It was a bold and terse, but courageous and firm. Altogether it was a bold and resolute speech, with a sterling English ring, and with a defiant note which could hardly fail to cause intense irritation in France. Sir William Harcourt, Mr. John Morley and Sir Charles Dike condemned it as dangerous and imprudent and provocative of civil results; but when the subject had been debated with great heat the financial vote was carried by a routing majority. The Government, with their great majority and party politics, need not regard as leadership Sir Michael Hicks Beach's, with its loud common sense and direct appeal to English pride."

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JUDGE MCKENNA,

APPOINTED SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR IN THE McKinley CABINET, IS AN IRISH CATHOLIC.

Judge Joseph McKenna of San Francisco, who has accepted the portfolio of the Secretaryship of the Interior in President-elect McKinley's cabinet, is a native of Philadelphia and a Roman Catholic.

Judge McKenna was born in 1838, and has lived in California for the past forty-two years. He has been a member of the Legislature of that State and a Congressman. He has been a judge of the United States Circuit Court since 1882. The incoming Secretary of the Interior was educated at the St. Augustin College, is married, and his family, who are resident in San Francisco, are devoted children of the Church.

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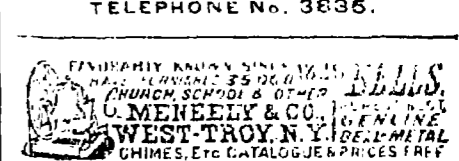
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