

THE TRUE WITNESS

IS PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY The Post Printing & Publishing Co., AT THEIR OFFICES: 761 CRAIG ST., Montreal, Canada.

Subscription, per annum \$1.50 paid strictly in advance. TO ADVERTISERS: Limited number of advertisements of approved character will be inserted in 'THE TRUE WITNESS' at 15c per line (single), first insertion.

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WEDNESDAY... SEPTEMBER 23, 1887

If the Hon. James McShane is the sort of person described by the *Katooz*, how is it that he devotes so much of his heaviest shot against him?

The population of Ireland on the 30th of June is set down at 4,867,352. The old story of ruin and decay, resulting from landlordism, coercion and misgovernment.

In Ireland cheers are given for "the English people" at Nationalist meetings, and groans for "the English Government." This shows how the wind is blowing. When the people of the sister islands unite against their Tory oppressors the end is not far off.

It is believed that Mr. Gladstone will accept Mr. Saxton's invitation to attend his inauguration as Lord Mayor of Dublin, New Year's Day. If the Grand Old Man goes to Ireland then, what tongue or pen can describe the unbounded enthusiasm of his reception?

COLONEL Mr. McShane manage to give the *Katooz* some sort of a job and shut its mouth. Brother Whites feels lonesome on account of not being able to make his usual pilgrimage to Quebec, and return with the bottle. Dogs deprived of bones are proverbially vicious.

THE Rev. Lord D. U. las Archibald arrives in town to-day. His Lordship will sing High Mass to-morrow at St. Anthony's, when the Rev. W. J. O'Shaughnessy P.P. and Dio. Inspector, will preach. Father O'Shaughnessy will also preach in the same church at 7.30 in the evening, and His Lordship will officiate at Dendictu.

It appears from the report of Mr. O'Brien's trial at Mitchellstown that he was arrested on the hearsay of the policemen, and not from any actual knowledge of the alleged offence. This confirms our view, expressed at the time, that Mr. O'Brien was singled out by the Government as a special victim on account of his arraignment of Lansdowne in Canada.

Grip's suggestion to appoint H. M. Edward Blake on the Fisheries Commission is a wise one. Why not employ our best man to present our case? But we suppose party exigencies will have it otherwise.

ONE of the novel features of the railroad fight in St. Louis is the ability of the scabbers to send passengers to Buffalo for nothing, and still make a profit. This is because the round trip is 88. The scabbers seem to be doing an active business, notwithstanding it was claimed their occupation would be gone with the enactment of the interstate law.

COMMERCIAL Union is gathering strength in the United States, despite reports of alleged apathy and hostility. As an indication of the interest the question is exciting at Washington, it is stated that the United States Government has directed all its consuls in this country to furnish returns of Canadian exports to the States during the past three years. This is an important move, and shows that our neighbors are getting alive to the question, now of first importance, in connection with the proposed settlement of the fisheries dispute.

FATHER O'LEARY, who spoke at the meeting of the Irish National League at Mitchellstown, is well known in New York and the Western States. He was an ardent supporter of the no rent idea and also of the maxim, "The quickest warfare is the most humane," which was kept for years at the head of the *Irish World*. He is a young man, and a ready and interesting speaker. For several years he has been in charge of a church at De Sota, but some time ago became involved in difficulty with his Bishop, owing to his ultra views on the Irish and labor questions. He came out strongly in favor of Dr. McGlynn, and this further aggravated his already strained relations with the Bishop of St. Louis.

NEVER was governmental dishonesty more clearly shown than in the conduct of the federal authorities towards Manitoba. They entered into a solemn compact with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company to secure it in possession of its monopoly, at the same time they jugged with the people of Manitoba so as to lead them to believe that the monopoly would be abandoned. Now Sir John stands between the devil and the deep sea, unable to satisfy either the province or the company. And this is the boasted statesmanship of which we hear so much. The company have an undoubted right

to insist on the fulfilment of the bond, but if the Government cannot do so, the question of compensation arises. In any case the federal authority must suffer.

The estimation in which the Evictor of Luggacurran is held in this country is shown by a fact to which the *Quebec Telegraph* calls attention. "It is a well known fact," says our contemporary, "that the toast of the Governor-General, on account of the adverse feeling to Lansdowne, is expunged from all banquets of our citizens. We have had some unpopular Governors in Canada, but none of them have made themselves so disagreeable to Irish tastes as the one at present here. In political life, a man will suffer at the polls who will declare that the Government's treatment of his tenants in Ireland was fair and just, and under the circumstances it is well that as little notice as possible be taken of him. In this district the Irish people rank second in majority and can at their pleasure turn the scale in nearly all the electoral divisions. The English members in Great Britain are assisting Ireland, and we hope the day is not far distant when, through united action in Great Britain and Ireland, Gladstone will be carried triumphant to the head of Parliament. Then let us have Parnell as First Minister for Ireland, and a man after his own heart as Governor-General of Canada."

A MEMORANDUM of the insulting restrictions imposed upon Catholics previous to the passing of the Emancipation Act still lingers in Ireland. The Lord-Lieutenant cannot be a member of the same creed as the majority of the population. Thus the Duke of Norfolk and the Marquises of Bute or Ripon are ineligible for the post of Viceroy, albeit they are Englishmen. To elevate Irish Catholic nobles like the Earls of Fingal or Granard to the mock-throne in Dublin Castle would be an innovation unutterable. And yet the Great Powers insist that the Sultan shall appoint only Christians to be governors of his dependencies in order to content the majority! Sir Charles Gavan Duffy calls attention to this anomaly in his paper in the *Contemporary*. It is amusing to hear ignorant fools prate of the dangers to the faith of the minority in Ireland, while such a degrading record of intolerance as this exists on the statute book. The Lord-Lieutenant may be a fool, a debauchee, or merest of narrow-brained fanatics—as sometimes he is—but he must not be a follower of the grandest, most ancient and wide-spreading of Churches.

THE HOME RULE agitation, like all previous efforts for the amelioration of the people suffering under political disabilities, is going through the same phases that overmarked the advance of reform. The Government, backed by a class, is resisting the consummation of a movement everywhere recognized as bound to triumph eventually over all obstacles. The Tories hope, by thus resisting to the bitter end, to prevent too full a measure of Home Rule being granted to Ireland. They are fighting with a view of wearing their opponents so as to make the best possible terms for themselves when the time comes that they must yield. But, as Mr. Stanhope said, they must not be allowed to "scamp the job." Home Rule must be a complete surrender to the reasonable demands made by Mr. Parnell and accepted by Mr. Gladstone.

MR. McSHANE'S enemies have overdone the thing badly in their attempt to raise a false cry against him. Their stupidity and vindictiveness were fully exposed by the libellous report in an evening contemporary. Everybody can now see that the mainpring of the attacks on Mr. McShane was disappointed personal ambition, flamed by the machinations of persons whose only desire is to embarrass the Mercier Government. We are, however, inclined to regard the statements which have appeared in the Opposition press as instructive. They serve to show us what sort of weapons these persons are inclined to employ, the extent of their ability to do them and the objects they desire to accomplish. They have shown their hand and we now know what it is worth. Mr. McShane and the Government are the stronger from this little breeze and their opponents weaker, with the added consciousness of being despised.

A STRIKING instance of the bloodthirsty fury which has seized upon the Tory-landlord class in the Old Country has been furnished by Lord Norton, who recently declared that the police ought to shoot down the leaders of the people. "Shoot the gentlemen in carriages," he said. "Shoot Labouchere." This is dangerous advice for a lord to give, not to mention the murderous intention it reveals. How indignant the Tory press would walk, how the Tory crowd would yell, were somebody to suggest the shooting of Balfour, or Lansdowne, or any one of the vile gang of evictors and coercionists who are filling Ireland with misery and bloodshed.

AFTER a trial that would have the character of a farce, were it not for the lurid back ground of murder, at Mitchellstown, William O'Brien has been liberated on bail. It is abundantly evident that he was not arrested, nor was his punishment sought, for anything he was alleged to have said in addressing his constituents. In reality, the speech for which he was nominally arrested was one of his mildest. But it was thought sufficiently strong to furnish a pretext for a brutalized magistracy, anxious to obey signals from Dublin Castle. Mr. O'Brien's real offence was his arraignment of Lansdowne before the people of Canada. This is pretty well understood, and will be remembered when the day comes for settling accounts.

No trial held at this city for many years excited so much pathetic interest as that of the old man Carroll for the killing of O'Connor. The facts and circumstances revealed at the trial need not be recapitulated here. The tragedy in itself supplies a warning which should not be forgotten. Practical joking is again shown for a thousandth time to lead to the most deplorable result. The justice of the verdict will hardly be questioned, though there is a general feeling that Carroll is not quite responsible for his actions, while his age and other circumstances justify a lenient sentence. This, however, is at the discretion of the judge, who is best fitted to estimate the facts and bearings of the case. The counsel employed by the Crown and for the de-

fence performed their duty admirably. All who heard Mr. Denis Barry address the jury on behalf of Carroll agree that he made a masterly effort. His plea was one well calculated to stir the fountains of eloquence, and certainly Mr. Barry rose to the occasion with a power and impressiveness that must have gone a great way with the jury. His arguments were arranged with superb effect, and presented in language that recalled "his best periods of forensic eloquence." We heartily congratulate Mr. Barry on the high position he has achieved by his conduct of this trial—a position which may be regarded as unsurpassed by any member of the bar engaged in criminal practice. If he did not secure an acquittal for his client, he certainly succeeded in reducing the sentence to the most lenient that could be hoped for under the circumstances.

The official figures of the Texas prohibition canvass have just been published. The prohibition vote was 129,278, and the vote against prohibition was 221,272, giving a majority against the measure of 92,994. The total vote was 25,000 greater than that cast in the last presidential canvass, and more than 47,000 in excess of that polled at the existing election for governor in 1886. The prohibitionists polled 27,000 more than the Republicans ever did in that State, and 64,000 more than they did last November.

THE *Richmond Times*, commenting on the rumored intention of the Local Government to try to fill the vacancy of Sheffield with an English-Speaking Protestant, in order to take him later on into the Cabinet with portfolio as the representative of the English-speaking Ministry, the Hon. D. A. Ross, setting, heartily approves of the idea and suggests the name of John Noyes, of Waterloo, as the man par excellence for the position. "He would carry Sheffield," says the *Times*, "with a rush and would do the Protestant Minority and the Province credit and honor in the Government. There are so few bright spots in the party politics these days that a suggestion of the above kind strikes a popular chord in the Eastern Townships."

WRITING to the editor of the *Toronto Catholic Review*, Archbishop Lynch clearly lays down the obligations of subscribers to newspapers. His letter is as follows:—

St. MICHAEL'S PALACE, Toronto, Sept. 23, 1887.

To the Editor *Catholic Weekly Review*:

SIR,—I have been often pained and astonished at the frequent appeals of editors and proprietors of newspapers to their subscribers, urging them to pay their just debts. Catholics, at least, cannot be unaware of their obligations in this matter, and that abolition to a penitent heartily sorry for his sins does not free him from the obligations of paying his debts. The atonement for oblivion of justice in this world will certainly be exacted in the next. The editors and proprietors of newspapers, on their part, give their time, the product of a high education, and expend their money with their money for stationery, printing and wages, to employees, and they expect and should have, in common justice, a return, often by no means adequate for their outlay. A man who will not pay for a paper he subscribes for, read, and whose contents he enjoys, is a retainer of another man's goods, and is on the level of a thief. Yours faithfully, JOHN JOSEPH LYNCH, Archbishop of Toronto.

MR. GEORGE H. SAULTS, formerly of Goderich, and in recent years connected with the press of Manitoba, has written to the editor of the *Goderich Signal* concerning affairs in the Prairie Province. He says:—

"In connection with my change from Winnipeg to St. Paul I may say that it was necessary for the reason that Winnipeg is a dead duck, say what they may, and will soon become petrified if the Government and C. P. R. do not let Manitoba alone. Imagine, if you can, the ridiculous figure which Manitoba is cutting to-day before the world by being hampered in the construction of a single railway line sixty miles in length. And this in a country which is in the Government and C. P. R. pamphlets represented as the most desirable place on earth for the settler. The whole business is so absurd that it creates disgust, and, of course, discontent. If Manitoba is to prosper, she must be allowed to build railways wherever the people desire them. This is being done in the States, and Manitoba must do the same or suffer. On my way down I noticed railways being extended and constructed in every direction, throughout Dakota and Minnesota. I have firmly come to the conclusion that Canada is being ruined by politics. It's politics first, last and all the time."

Those who know the ground will admit the perfect truth of what is contained in this paragraph. The absurdity of the situation is forcibly stated.

PROF. GOLWIN SMITH, who recently visited the North-west territories, says: "I brought away a decided opinion that the blame of the half-breed rebellion rests mainly on the Ottawa Government. Had the Government been properly informed and served by good agents, it might have easily satisfied the claims and allayed the fears of these poor people who were naturally disquieted by the advance of a strange civilization which narrowed their hunting grounds, superseded their petty carrying trade with its railways, broke up their mode of life, and seemed to threaten their subsistence. The Government was shattered at first by military excitement, and afterwards, censure upon it assuming a party form, by party. For want of a little timely attention eight millions had to be spent in suppressing a rebellion which put four hundred ill-armed men, between the ages of 16 and 90, in the field. The distant and party Government of Ottawa has been the bane of the North West."

SPEAKING of the appointment of a new Governor-General, the *Quebec Telegraph* calls attention to the fact that Lansdowne's term expires next year. "There is not much danger," the *Telegraph* rightly assumes, "that any extension of his term of office will be offered Lord Lansdowne, for his terrible unpopularity precludes any possibility of such an event. He is beyond any doubt the most unpopular governor-general that Canada has ever had. If the loyalty of Canadians to the crown is to be preserved, it is essentially necessary that no more Irish landlords of the Luggacurran type be sent out here as governor-general. Give us an Irishman after the style of Lord Dufferin and we shall all be satisfied. Nor do we believe there will be any more experiments in the way

of sending out members and connections of the royal family. They are not suited to our atmosphere. We are too democratic a people for any low neck dress discipline, and too sympathetic to be ruled by a persecutor of our fellow-subjects in Ireland. We breathe pretty nearly the same atmosphere as our republican neighbors to the south of us, and it is high time for Downing-street to take warning by the signs of the times. As for the Canadian opinion of Lansdowne, and for the matter of that the American opinion also, it was long ago settled by Mr. O'Brien, and the experiment of sending us the species of Irish landlord cannot be repeated with impunity."

NAILING THE COLORS.

Mr. F. W. Maude, the late Secretary of the Liberal Unionist faction, made a complete statement at the Liberal and Radical demonstration in the Alexandria Palace, London, of the causes of his secession. He has gone over to the Gladstonian party, convinced by a close observation of public events that "the policy of the combination which calls itself the Unionist party is dangerously retrograde in its nature, and inconsistent with the pledges given at the general election," and he concurs with Sir George Trevelyan regarding Mr. Gladstone's concessions. He contended that no reason now exists why Radical Unionists should not renew their allegiance to the Liberal party. The concluding portion of Mr. Maude's statement is likely to be heard of again.

The time is come for plain speaking and nailing our colors to the mast. I should not be here today if I did not believe that the leaders of the National League were prepared to accept as a final settlement the generous measure of Home Rule that the Liberal party is willing to help them to attain. Under these circumstances, why should they not be jointly responsible with the leaders of the Liberal party for the formulation of the details of the new Home Rule scheme? Notice would do more to clear the issue to be fought out next session and to rally to our standard every citizen with a spark of democratic feeling than the conviction that the Irish policy we were fighting for would never be repudiated as the work of Saxon statesmen, and won at first, accepted as a final settlement by the representatives of the Irish people as by the Liberal party. Let the next Home Rule scheme be presented as an ultimatum to Parliament and the country on the joint responsibility of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Parnell.

AN "HONEST CONFESSION."

Whilst pursuing Mr. McShane with a sharp stick, the organ of "political exigencies" makes a ridiculous mistake in supposing that because it has succeeded in raising enough dust to blind its own eyes others cannot see. After having abused Mr. McShane, and having done all in his power to injure him, with the only apparent result of establishing him in the estimation of the public and the confidence of his colleagues, the organ mournfully admits its failure. "We 'honestly confess,'" it says, "we do not understand the situation, nor the relations which the Hon. Mr. McShane maintains towards his colleagues." Considering that the paper which makes this "honest confession" has treated Mr. McShane with studied insult and spread abroad all sorts of reports to injure him, we are driven to the conclusion that all it said was wrong, because it does not "understand the situation." But a little investigation will show that the honest confession is not very honest after all. The organ quotes *L'Electeur* to belittle Mr. McShane, yet in the same article, from which it quotes, we read:—

"We would like to know if the Hon. Mr. McShane has not the right to sit down to dinner as a guest, next to the Hon. Thomas McCreery, of his brother, Mr. Robert McCreery, the Hon. John Hearn and Mr. Hector Cameron, without this proximity being the occasion of raising a sunset amongst the press. This does not prevent Mr. McShane from being one of the most active ministers who have ever been in the Ministry of Agriculture and Public Works."

The organ must have read this as well as the parts of the same article which it produces, nevertheless it "honestly confesses" that it does not understand the situation! But if it is thus obtuse out of pretence, those who know its character and objects are not so stupid. The facts, however, which show out above all are that Mr. McShane is popular with members of both parties, and that the organ is trying to destroy his usefulness by any and all means, fair or foul.

THE LAW OF MURDER IN IRELAND.

Ireland is threatened with a repetition of the ghastly experiences of the tithe war. The Government is proceeding in a manner directly calculated to produce widespread disturbance, bloodshed and, perhaps, national calamity. Ministers have been warned by the parliamentary representatives of the people and by the hierarchy that it may become impossible for them to control men driven to madness by injustice and oppression. Red handed murderers in the guise of police are let loose upon the people. A besotted, vindictive magistracy have been endowed with unlimited power, personal liberty is abolished and neighbors cannot meet together for any purpose, social or otherwise, without running risk of being bayoneted or shot down. But when we look for a reason for this extraordinary state of affairs it is impossible to find one. Previous to the passage of the Crimes Act there was less crime in Ireland, according to population, than in any country in the civilized world. All the people could be accused of was that they had combined to improve their condition economically and politically by constitutional agitation. To secure these ends they adopted such means as circumstances permitted. They demanded reform of the land laws and the restoration of their native parliament. There was nothing wrong in these demands. Nor was there anything wrong in the methods of the National League or the Plan of Campaign, for both had the approval of the clergy from the Primate down to the parish curate. Yet the whole power of the empire is exerted to crush the people so presuming to seek justice. Officers of the law are permitted to murder the inoffensive men and boys in open daylight in the streets, and their crime is justified by government in advance of investigation. In many cases even investigation is denied. Under conditions like these, it would indeed be strange were there no retaliation. When men commit crime, even if they have law on their side, they must know that human nature is prone to revenge. It is therefore the duty of the press and the pulpit to warn them of the risks they run. Then, if they

perpetrate, they can only blame themselves for whatever misfortunes may follow. All history teaches that oppression produces rebellion, but when rebellion is hopeless, secret conspiracies are formed, terrorism prevails, with incendiarism and assassination. A Government which privileges so as to produce these gloomy conditions must prepare to face a fearful retribution.

UNRESTRICTED RECIPROcity.

Conservative papers opposed to unrestricted reciprocity are trying to make much of the argument that the movement is annexation in disguise. That view has been urged recently by one of the Tory organs in this city. It is somewhat remarkable, however, that this organ has not had the intended result of frightening anybody. In fact it has only led to an examination of the thing, which turns out to be very much like a pumpkin, cut to resemble a horrible man, with a penny dime inside, stuck up by a country boy on a fence to astonish the neighbors in the dark. It is like the diabolical cry, and has even ceased to amuse. Some people go so far, indeed, as to say:—"Well, suppose it does lead to annexation, what of it? Canada can take care of them selves, and will not join the States unless they find that they will benefit by so doing."

The annexation aspect of the question, however, has been ably and fully discussed at the several meetings held throughout the country to consider commercial union. Perhaps the best and most concise view of the matter was that presented by Mr. Winans at the Detroit meeting. Here are his words:—

"But it will be said in the United States that a political union between the United States and Canada would be a much greater boon, and that in order to obtain all the advantages of a free American market a political union is a necessity. This may well be doubted. Indeed, in many respects commercial union between Canada and the United States is much to be preferred to a political union in the present juncture of affairs. When the political millennium in the United States arrives, which all politicians are after, there will be a period when, if Canada desires to be admitted, it might be done for then the end could be reached entirely upsetting the political status of the whole nation. At present the admission of five millions of people into the union, whose political tendencies were unknown, would precipitate into politics such a storm of uncertainty as to completely baffle the calculations of the most astute politicians. While parties are so evenly balanced that a single speech of an inoffensive Democrat, who loved to indulge in altercation, is credited with having changed the character of an entire administration, what might not be the consequences when such unknown quantities would be introduced into the contest as the French vote of Quebec, the Orange vote of Ontario, or the Catholic vote of all the provinces. No office-seeking politician in the United States, no calculating politician, not even the mild-minded politician believing that his country was safer with the party of his choice, would feel content with the admission of Canada into all the privileges of suffrage, or participation in the government of the country, when there is every calculation was upset and every combination destroyed. Again, the admission of Canada into the United States would involve the assumption of her public debt, which is a very heavy and increasing one. Having been largely created by expenditure for a great system of public works, and the perfection of the means of communication extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the obligations incurred would have to be adjusted, and the assets assumed in a manner entirely different from that which has grown up with the growth of each state and territory. Aside from these difficulties, so hurriedly sketched, there are numerous other considerations which make it impossible that Canada be united with advantage admitted into political union with the United States. The chief of these objections, however, does not rest with the United States, but lies in the fact that Canada herself is strongly opposed to a political alliance."

Free trade with the continent of which our country forms a part is fast becoming an absolute necessity. The Maritime Provinces are languishing for want of it. Manitoba and the North-West must have it as they become populated. Indeed, there is a manifest impossibility of preventing free intercourse between peoples occupying a thousand miles of prairie country with nothing to divide them but an imaginary line. There is, and will be, no essential difference between them. Speaking the same language, enjoying like institutions, having common interests, and being related by blood, nothing can keep them apart. For a little while longer, till the lands now vacant are filled up, our government may be able to keep up the appearance of separation, but in a short time the smugling industry, now so extensively and successfully carried on, will defy all the customs laws and officials that can be employed, and finally result in the collapse of a system as unnatural as it is impractical.

Every year, as railways crossing the border at all available points connect this country with the general lines of continental trade and transportation, the arterial system of commerce becomes strengthened. We may fight against the inevitable for a time, for years, perhaps, but by so doing we deprive ourselves of advantages which those who shall come after us will enjoy while wondering at our stupidity and folly. Unfortunately we have a Government out of sympathy with the masses of the people on this question. And there is a well grounded fear that should the commercial question be submitted to the International Commission the Canadian representative will not urge the views that what we want is the fullest reciprocity in all things. Not in natural products alone, as some parties supposed to be intimate with ministers at Ottawa propose, but in everything. It is a gratuitous assumption to suppose our manufacturers could not hold their own were the Customs line abolished. Such a confession of weakness is a proof of unworthiness. But, supposing it to be true, what right has anyone to say that the masses of Canadians must forego their chances for prosperity and sacrifice their welfare to a few sickly manufacturers? Buffalo has not been ruined by free trade and competition with New York. How then would Toronto suffer? Boston is not falling into decay because it enjoys unrestricted reciprocity with other American cities along the Atlantic seaboard. Why then should we imagine that Halifax, St. John, Quebec or Montreal would be ruined by being placed on the same footing? It is not more consonant with reason to believe that the removal of existing barriers to free commercial intercourse would enable our cities to share in the same general advantages, and prosperity which are enjoyed by the cities of the republic?

No one, in fact, can take an unprejudiced survey of the situation without admitting the vast advantages that would accrue to both countries by unrestricted reciprocity. In Canada the only opponents to the measure are the Tory politicians and their partners—the ringsters and monopolists who have managed to obtain

the reins of government and built up a system by which they are amassing millions annually out of the people whom they have isolated and are fleeing at their leisure and to their hearts' content. It may be a very wicked thing for those who are being fleeced to seek a way of throwing off the yoke of political and commercial servitude, but they have given their master's policy a fair trial. That policy has failed notoriously. An alternative is presented, and no matter how strong the opposition may be to commercial union, it is bound to be carried in the long run. Perhaps, if it be too strongly resisted, it may develop into annexation, then good bye John.

ENGLISH SYMPATHY FOR IRELAND.

Every day evidence is accumulating of the deep and growing sympathy among the masses of Englishmen for the long oppressed people of Ireland. More particularly is this to be seen among the democracy and the working classes, but it is not confined to them by any means, for men occupying the highest positions politically and socially have taken frequent opportunities of late to express their hearty accord with the Home Rule party. From files of old country papers just to hand we will take a few extracts to show that the proposal for the settlement of the Irish question, on lines agreeable to the desires and aspirations of the Irish people, is now the great popular movement of the day throughout the three kingdoms. Thus the whole aspect of the problem has been altered, and under the leadership of Mr. Gladstone the British nation is advancing steadily to the task of righting the wrongs of Ireland by a wise measure of justice and the recognition of national claims to self-government for exclusively Irish affairs. We hear no longer the old wild cry against England. There is a discrimination now between the party of oppression in England and the party of freedom. The long disunited, mutually distrusting peoples are shaking hands across the bloody chasm, and in pursuit of a common purpose are uniting as they never united before.

Among the many outbursts of sympathy from English, Scotch and Welsh friends the most interesting is a letter from Mr. J. S. Stuart Gleennie. That gentleman points out that wherever a local branch of the National League is dissolved an Irish branch of the Celtic League could be formed. The Celtic League, it will be remembered, has for its objects—1. To organize co-operation between the Irish, Scotch and Welsh and their Parliamentary representatives on all matters specially affecting these people either severally or collectively. 2. To make it clear to the country that the Irish, Scotch and Welsh are in their present movements fighting the battle of the whole democracy. 3. To preserve the language, literature and traditions of the Celtic people, and to promote historical and philological Celtic researches. "We shall see," says Mr. Gleennie, "whether the Government cares to suppress in Ireland the meeting of a League of which the meeting in Scotland and Wales are lawful, and have precisely the same general objects—namely, Home Rule and thoroughgoing land law reform."

When the meeting at Ballymore was proclaimed a number of largely attended meetings were held in different parts of England and Scotland to protest against that arbitrary action. Mr. Pickersgill, M.P., in addressing the Radicals of Hackney, Wick, and Dover, pointed out that the National League stood to the Irish people in the same manner as did the Radical party to the democracy of England, and there was no reason why the people should be put down in their just demands.

About the same time, and in relation to the same event, Mr. Creamer, M.P., and Mr. Ellis, M.P., spoke at a great demonstration of the anthracite miners and triplars workers of Carmarthenshire at Cwmaman. At this meeting a resolution was unanimously adopted strongly condemning the Government for proclaiming the National League and expressing the warmest sympathy with "their Irish brethren" in the struggle for freedom and equality. Great meetings were also held at Northwich, Regent's Park, Stowly, Kensal Town, Eton's Town, Thornbury Castle, and at Hutton Hall, where the Liberals of Darlington assembled, at all of which similar resolutions were carried and the greatest enthusiasm. At these meetings members of Parliament and in some instances Protestant clergymen addressed the people on behalf of the Irish cause.

At the same time, as we learn from the London correspondent of the *Dublin Freeman*, indignation meetings continue to be the order of the day, and if Lord Salisbury's ears do not ring again with the vehemence of the denunciation which his policy towards Ireland has evoked his arduous organs must be very dull indeed. At Manchester, Liverpool, Bolton and elsewhere strong protests have been entered against the infatuated conduct of the Tory Government, and it needs no prophet's eye to foresee that the storm has already burst which will sweep the Government from place and power. At Scarborough, near Liverpool, at a meeting held under the presidency of Mr. G. J. Lynekey, Mr. Coombes, an English Radical, strongly denounced the Government, and it is characteristic now of these Irish meetings that Englishmen are to the forefront, and throw themselves into the thick of the fray on Ireland's side.

Mr. Stanhope, M.P., the radical brother of a Tory Minister, was present, and spoke at Ennis previous to the great meeting. Among other things he said, addressing the "men and women of Clare," in reply to an address presented to him:—

I come here as an Englishman (cheers), to ask you to receive from me a message of goodwill and friendship from the democracy of England, Scotland and Wales (renewed cheers). I thank you for that noble and generous address which you have unanimously voted to me. It contains within it what I assume to be full and just requirements of the Irish people (cheers). If that be so I here solemnly declare that these demands are not only the demands of the people, but they form and constitute the programme of the whole British Liberal party (applause). You, men of Clare, and Irishmen throughout your great historic island, you have now to go through with this struggle as envisaged by one great circumstance, as Mr. Gladstone has termed it (cheers), which was wanting in the programme of the whole British Liberal party (applause). You are no longer fighting by yourselves for what you ought to have fought for, and bravely did fight for until at last you won the greatest battle of all—the union, the fraternity of the whole Liberal party throughout the British Isles (cheers). This is a great victory. Let me implore you to be worthy of your glorious triumph (hear, hear). Let me beseech you, as