

## CHARLES STEWART PARNELL

roughshod over Irish opinion, and the conciliatory effect of the Arrears Bill, introduced a few days later, was altogether marred.

On May 15th, 1882, there was a scene in the House about the Kilmainham Treaty. Mr. Charles Lewis asked Mr. Gladstone to produce the letters which were the evidence of the intentions of the recently released members. Mr. Gladstone did not wish to produce these letters, but saw no reason why, if the writers and those to whom the letters were addressed did not object, the letters should not be produced. Parnell then rose and read the letter he had given to Captain O'Shea.

Then Lord John Manners "must ask" if this was the *only* letter received by the Government; to which the Premier returned that he had some information in addition to the letter (he did not say considerable information). Then Mr. Forster had his little revenge in blandly asking if Mr. Parnell had read the *whole* of the letter. Parnell replied that he had read the whole of the copy given him by Captain O'Shea, but the original had another paragraph which he had no objection to reading.

Then Captain O'Shea wanted to explain the whole circumstances. Mr. Forster, still smarting under the snub to him of Parnell's release, would not play up to Mr. Gladstone, but handed Willie the letter as it had been given to him to take to Mr. Gladstone. Captain O'Shea ran his eye over it, and handed it back to Mr. Forster amid laughter from the Conservatives. Mr. Forster declined to take back the letter, and, after a moment's hesitation, Captain O'Shea read it through, including the paragraph in which Mr. Parnell undertook