

wrongs and in the advancement of the cause of liberty."

So, substantially, we did act, though with less decision than I, for one, could have wished. But Mr. Gladstone was beaten by 30 votes. The English Parliament was dissolved, and the Home Rule Government was beaten, by a small popular, but a great parliamentary majority. The times looked dark indeed. Our Parliament about the same time was also dissolved. A new House fresh from the people met in each country; and in England the deplorable Crimes Bill was introduced. Seeing its introduction, Mr. Curran, a Canadian Conservative, moved in the Canadian House of Commons a resolution looking to the re-affirmance by the new House of the views already twice expressed as to local government for Ireland, but mainly directed against the Crimes or Coercion Bill then pending.

There was a division of opinion as to the propriety of moving against the Crimes Bill. Mr. McNeill proposed an amendment, which declined to deal with the Crimes Bill and re-affirmed the expressions of the former House as to Home Rule. Mr. McCarthy proposed an amendment, which, without any such re-affirmance, declined to express an opinion on the Crimes Bill. These amendments were defeated by overwhelming majorities. Then Mr. Davin moved an amendment, expressing the regret of the House at learning that it was considered necessary to pass a coercive measure for Ireland; and re-affirming the conviction, as expressed in the resolutions of 1882 and 1886, that a plan of local government for Ireland, which would leave unimpaired the links connecting Ireland with the British Empire and guard the rights of the minority, would be conducive to the prosperity of Ireland and the stability of the Empire. To this amendment Sir John Macdonald lent his powerful support. It mustered, however, only 59 votes, while against it were no less than 128.

I had pointed out early in the debate some improvements which I thought might be made in Mr. Curran's resolution. These he adopted, and his resolution was adopted by 135 to 47. But mark this: While that majority is imposing, it did not show the full extent of the feeling of the House in favor of Home Rule; for the adverse minority was opposed only to dealing with the Crimes Bill. But of the 47 who voted in that minority, no less than 44 were present and voted for Mr. Davin's amendment, which was in favor of Home Rule, and thus proclaimed their continued adhesion to Home Rule for Ireland; so that once again there was practical unanimity in the last of the three Canadian Houses in favor of Home Rule.

Now, what was this last expression, so far as it relates to the only presently material question, Home Rule? After referring to the former resolutions it says:

"The House again expresses the hope that there may speedily be granted to Ireland a substantial measure of Home Rule which, while satisfying the national aspirations of the people of Ireland for self-government, shall also be consistent with the integrity of the Empire as a whole. That the granting of Home Rule to Ireland will fittingly crown the already glorious reign of her Most Gracious Majesty as a constitutional sovereign, will come with special appropriateness in this her jubilee year, and, if possible, render her Majesty more dear to the hearts of her already devoted and loyal subjects."

These sanguine hopes were not realised. The jubilee year was not so crowned. The odious Crimes Bill was passed. The effort of Lord Salisbury to deal with Ireland on anti-Home Rule lines lasted for six weary years. The Irish people on the whole, though with exceptions, showed during that time great patience and moderation. (Applause.) Feelings born of a new emotion, that of hope in a great Eng-

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