GLOOMY RETROSPECT. The Irish Famines of Past Days

the Barkest Blot on the Shield of Modern Celliction-Figores in the Past to Amelierate the Condition of the Sufferers.

Inimi is on the eve of another famine. in the gentern countles, from Dinegal to Kur, the potate crop has been rulned, and han; and that the herrible scenes of former tamins periods are about to be resonauted. There are even those who predict that the name are country will be revisited by all the instreading episodes of "the black '47." The families of '47 was the direct result of the illers sverywhere in Ireland, of the potato gop of the previous year. The fallure this was a secured entirely to the countles on the switch sea board, and it is not now ap paret how such ruln and deacht on can now pure was witnessed for to three years age, number of the poly about one helf 110 pepularior of the part age, and this in tred will help to circumscribe the disaster. The distilling, however, is so sorious as to make it certain that unless help comes soon an semants, may die of starvation and thousands more of diseases facident to lamins, for hundreds of thore ands of people la iraland to-day potatoes are the staple, if not the exclusive clos. In 1846, when the not the explanation was about line millions, it was population was about population was polatoes were the explicative normalians, and the chief article of det of two millions more. Ireland is in dist at two minutes and to day, relapracticity desidered as far as its reliance on the tirely construent as 121 as no retrained on the points over in concerned. Then, as now, the grater put of the laboring classes, so called, green product at a block at a to ef poverty and ministrate. Tas people live on putatoes hams they are poor, and they are poor be-CANOT OBTAIN REGULAR EMPLOYMENT.

Paris failure of the potate crop and severe sesquent dissers in partie par local tes bre ben of frequent occurrence in Ireland, Dispersionalism prior to 1845, the distress he caused amounted to faccine. In the put 1739 a severe and early frost dostroyed in pietes is the ground and very great ling mound. Another period of distrass summin 1822. The preceding season had has cantally set and the petatoes retted site ites had been stored in the pits. The in the severely felt in all the Western make of Munter and Coppanght. Fover maspared and aggravated the ruff rings of the people. The distress mordinary exciton to relieve it. A com-Musica Hease. The Lira Lieutenant placed study dispuis a considerable sum, which, ederformer acte of Parliament, had been thin blabade, and they received upward of 131 000 in subscriptions. Parliament reted £300 000 for public works and other aliel purposes and also appropriated £15,000 trisellate suigration to the Cape of Good Ropa A Ludon committee raised for the haine stricken people £310,000, about \$\(\text{tH}\), of which sum was collected in Ireled. A plentiful harvest rendered a centimmes of their labors unnecessary, and it was then lound that they had a balance of mini treight upon the West of Ireland anther fillers of the potato with its usual acsupposite the same and postilence. The res principally will select the coasts of Guny, Mays and Denegal; but it was suffilly less in other districts. On this comies the potate had fulled.

WHILE IN THE GROUND,

ud the presents was felt as early as Japuary. 32. Two London committees collected for the people in districts £74,410. In D 11.n tes committees were also organized. Their related collections amounted so upwards of 23,00. Tos Gevernment also cdyanced (40,000, part of which was expended on and the second of the second o Fu lides with misery and death, and the label befores that accompanied it has been upsalleled in any olvilized country in the weld. "Toe Irleh famine of 1847," saye A.H. Sellivan in Valuelond. "bed rendis, seelal and policinal are titute it and it has a tried it and it is a tried it and it is a tried it is a trie hitsy for more than two hundred years."

The hirvest of 1845 promised to be the tibing strend in many years. Suddenly, himself the annual transmission of the tibing strend in many years. , in one month, in one week, it might h mid, the withering breath of a simoom mand to sweep the land, blacting all in its pit. Wasta tract: of petate growth dard in one night from smiling luxuriance be shiveled and blackened waste. Too hman, hewever, were not discouraged.

In bugged and borrowed on any terms the

Man whereby to crop the land for the next man. It was anything to tide over the in-tral to the harvest of '46. It was this harmate '46 that scaled their doom. In July slightswept ever the land, and in one forture to potatoes

WERE TOTALLY DESTROYED.

The was not even enough left for seed.
The people, says Witham Stephenson forg, in "Irish History for English Richn," endured the less with an apathy hospinhensible in England. Their food on great their savings were count. the The give, their savings were spent, the skeed, blighted potato corps were a senthe of death that the most illiterate could tage of death that the most illiterate could tad. Weakened by a year of privation the wollement their fate with indifference of ill make an indicate on the patience of despair. Fremilion persons were wishout money ad without food. It was usiles to sell indate on a moderate price. Blank, at all disay, a nort of stupor fell upon the peeple, catasting remarkably with the fierce energy

Catrating remark ably with the fierce energy modeled a year before. It was no uncomametated a year before. It was no unoun-one sight, we are told, to see the citizer and histitle family seated on the gardon fence array ill day long in mondy silence at the lighted plot that had been tielr less; hope. Its transformation of the spirit of the people in transfermation of the spirit of the people m met sad to contemplate. The horrible fast part averted if the Government had then to the occasion. In the autumn of 1845, when the first partial oright of the potato the papeared, the Government received waters that a frightful catastrophe was at

Biltung of the station is evident of Par-

evil then at hand, or actually befallen, they were faisly tardy and inacequate. When the executive did burry, the blunders of preoipitancy outdid the disasters of excessive deliberation. "Again and again," A. M. Sullivan eays, "the

GOVERNMENT WERE WARNED

not by heedless erators or popular leaders, but by men of the highest position and seandest repute in I sland, that even with the very best intentions on their part, mistake and failure must abound in any attempt to grapple with the famine by the ordinary mabluery of Government."

The action of the Government was most shert sighted, and the all-absorbing question now is, is history going to repeat itself? Bal-feur knows whither it is or not. Up to the present, he has shown no arequate appreciagainment at to seenseprance at the impending famine. When the worst came in 1846 47, much precious time was let through misun derstanding and recrimination between the Itish landlards and the executive, charges of neglect of duties on one hand and of incapacity on the other, passing freely to and fre. Had the government acted with promptness and decision a million lives might have been saved. At first the establishment of soup kitchens under local relief committees subsidized by the Government was relied upon to avert the famine. "It is doubtful," says the author of "New Ireland," "If the world up to that time naw so huge a demoralization, so great a degradation via tad upon a ence high-apirited and sensitive people." It is a fact, howover, that soup kitchens were resorted to during a previous familie. All over the makes terrement the usands, and perhaps country in 1847 large boilers were set up, in and generously the usands, and perhaps which what was called it. ed; later an Indian meal stirabout was boiled. Aronad these bollers on the readside there daily monaci and shricked and lought the scuilled orewds of gaunt, cadaverous creatures that were

VIGTIMS OF THE PAMINE.

The Irish poor law system broke down under the strain which the state of general destitution and starvation imposed. Until 1845 the coor houses were spurned and detested by the Irish poor. They regarded poverty as misfortane, not a crime. When, however, the familie came, the devooring pange of star vation could not be resisted, and the famish ing people poured fate the poor houses until to ey filled. In the Autumn of 1835 relief works were set on foot, the Government having received Parliamontary authority to grant baronic linant. The result was utter failure. The wreiched people finally became too wast ed and emackt d to work. Tuey tottered at daykrak to the relicell; valuly tried to wheel the harrow or ply the plok, but fainted away en the "outting" or lay down on the "outting". wayside to rise no more. As for the "roads" on which so much mency was wasted, and on which so many lives were sacrificed, lardly any of them were finished. Miles of grassgrown earth works are to be seen yet through out the country, marking the course and com memorating for posserity one of the gigantic blunders of the famine time. The first re-markable eign, atrange to say, of the havoc which deal was making, was the decline and disappearance of funerals. Among the Irish people a funeral was always a great display and participation in the procession was for all neighbors and friends a sacred duty. "peor" luneral—that is, one thinly attended
—was considered disrespectful to the dead person and reproachful to the living. In the summer of 1846, nowever, as the

FUNERALS BECAME MORE FREQUENT, there was a rapid decline in the number of

attendants, until at length, persons were stopped on the road and requested to assist in carrying the coffin a little further. The t me came when neither or file nor shroud could be supplied. Daily in the street and 17.04. la 1831 violent storms and heavy on the foetway, some poor creature lay down as if to sleep, and presently was stiff and stark. It was the fever which supervened on the famine that wrought the greatest slaughter and spread the great at terror. For this dettioper, when it came, spared ne class, rich or peor. As long as it was "the bunger" alone that raged it was no deadly peril to wint the antivisit the sufferers, but not se when the fever came. To come within reach of the contagion was certain death. Whole families periahed unvisited and unassisted. The heroism and self-sacrifice which this dreadful visitation called forth from the classes in the communithe Cithouc doctore, were remarkable. Clergymen of Protestant denominations furnished many instances of devotion fully as striking, but upon the fermer obviously fell the brunt of the trial. The fatality among the Catholic priest; and physicians was ismentable. The one bright spot on this dark page of Irish history is the true charity and sympathy that came almost spontaneously from every part of the world. England contributed generously, but America, the home then of millions of the Irish race, without seeking to make an invidious distinction, was probably the mest generous of all nations. In the United States the people were especially active in the work of furnishing reliaf. A mass meeting was held at Washington, at which the Vice President of the United States, George M. Dallas, presided, on Feb. 9

MEETINGS FOLLOWED

in quick succession in all parts of the country. The railreads carried free every-thing marked "Ireland." Free storage was also offered.

Jonathan Pine, one of the secretaries of the

Central Relief Committee, write to Jacob Haney, a Quaker, of New York , a Dicember 3, 1846, notifying him of the stuation and asking his assistance. Mr. Haney, himself an Irishman, replied premptly, remarking :--Americans have always contributed more money ten times ever than all the ether foreigners put together." In a subsequent letter Mr. Haney said that the sum remitted to Ireland through New York houses from November 1, 1846, to January 5, 1847, with s few houses not counted, amounted to \$150,000, all centribut:d by laborers and servant girls. The total receipt of contributions from the American public generally amount ed to £15,976 18 2 i in money. The quantity of previations was 9 911 tons and its estimated value £133,847 7, 7d., making gross amount of both Aude of rollef £149 824 5:94. Of clething, 642 packages were received, the value of which was not ascertained. Two shiploads of breadstuff; were carried to Ireland by the frigat: a Macedenian and James land by the trigat: a Macedenian and James-town. The open-handed, open-hearted ways of the rural population were visibly affected by the "Forty-seven" ordeal. Their ancient aport and pastimes everywhere disappeared, and in many part; of Ireland have never returned. The outdoor games, the builing match and the viliage dance are particularly

seen no more. the famine of '79 80.

The Irish people had some slight periods of distress after the famine of '47, but the next serious crisis of a similar character that they had was in 1879 and 1880. This coca-sion was grappled with successfully by the Bilting of the station is evident of Parliment: red tape and fatal circumlcoution the station is evident of Parliment: red tape and fatal circumlcoution. The lives of half a million human beings the stations of the Government tagged by a Government tagged by the awful magnitude of the table. The harvest of 1879 was the werst since the great famine years, but judged by the awful magnitude of the table.

was the staff of life, would, by the beginning of the new year, be without field or the means of buying it. Five hundred theusand, more tried on the verge of rule. "A gleemy fereboding," says the report of the Mansion Heure committer, "estiled down upon the proje's hear; a. Some vague sense of drift-ing reward an abvestock possession of them. ing toward an abyse took possession of them.
The portents which preceded the great famine A on to be flowly reproducing themselves; orice of warning, incredulity, represented the lays, unpreparedness, and all the while the spectre of a foedless Winter drawing nearer." The money value of the crops in Ireland was over ten million pounds less than it was in 1878. Nearly one-half of this less was due to the failure of the princip I food crop of the poverly stricken masses. The people felt humiliated when it appeared that another appeal would have to be made for assistance to the people of other countries. "The country," save the Mansion House Committee's report, "formed part of the wealthlest empire the more." in the world. The self-respect of the people themselves revolted against the idea of na tional mendicancy." Work, not alms, was the burden of the peoples cry. Alms it had to be, however, and every county on the glabe centributed its abare. The Dublin Mension House Fund amounted altogether to £180,000, while about £300,000 were distributed he tween the Dachess of Marlborough's Committee, the New York Herald Fund Committee, the Land League, the Canadian Fund Com-mittee and Pulladelphia Fund Committee. The individual remittances from Irishmen men and women in Australia and America was moderately satimated at £150,000 more. Funds from the other sources brought the R. I of Fand up to almost £1,270,000 This

Bi-hop Berkeley.

large sum did nothing more than satisfy the

immediate cravings of want during seven

months' distress,

Oxford University long ago raised a statue to the memory of Bishop Berkeley, one of its most distinguished denizens, alshough not of its alumni. In land had done nothing to honour mother than the state of the same and the same his shade until to-day, but now a notic monu-ment, the work of Irish bands, tells the visitor to Cloyne Cathedral that in that diocese for many years lived and laboured, helping God's poor by thoughs, and purse and pen, a modest but with almost gifted philanthropist, whose fame is more lasting than carven statue or montame is more jasting than carven statue or mon-umental brass. Berkeley occupies a niche in that place in the pantheon of genius where are ranged the men of orginal thought—men like Copernicus. Gaillen and Newton. The prac-tically good and not leside of Berkeley's character is revealed to us in fact that his letters and writings are filled with references to the mis-arable condition of the root, recopie of Iveland writings are filled with references to the mis-erable condition of the poor people of Ireland amongst whom he spent so many years of his life, and that he volustarily devoted one fifth of his whole income of Bishop of Cloyne to the relief of the poor of the diocess. He was the author of the famous metaphor of Ireland's capability of self support, in cleanliness and comfort, though she were surrounded with a wall of brass a thousand cubits high. He man velled much at the mis government which per-mitted this anomly of the population of a country feeding on potates white its vast stores of rich beef and mutton were exported and sold for the benefit of a few. Reading his lines on this subject, the man of reflection must ack blusself are not all the fine phrases which he hears about progress and the march of intellect, and such well known shibboleths, so much eu pty sound when Ireland is to-day in just the same plight as Bishop Berkeley won tered and grieved over a contury and a half ago. - United

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Address, The Home Fascinator, Montreal,

Canada.

A Mysterious Suicide.

REDWOOD, Cal., October 5—Last night Louise Essinger, aged 23, was married to George Webrlin at the residence of U. Grover, her uncle. The wedding was attended by a large number of friends. At 4 o'clock a.m. she and her husband went to their residence. She refused to allow him to enter her room and he refused to allow him to enter her room and he was compelled to returned to the residence of Grover to pass the remainder of the night. On again entering his house at 6 a.m., he was horrified to find his bride lying dead in bed In the bed were some grains of a crystal substance, the nature of which has not yet been determined. She left no letter of explanation. Muss Essling-er had been in Redwood six weeks, and was en-gaged to Webrlin only four weeks. It is con-jectured that a former lover in Portland, Ore-gon, proved false to her.

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Iton," (?) have discarded both and find the Remington superior to either.

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Ministerial Statements.

London, O.t. 9.—Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, speaking as Gioucester, stated that the reperts as to the potato famine were everrated, and that the gevernment had taken measures to prevent any extended suffering on account of the fallure of crops and was willing to accept suggestions made in good faith from all quartors for the promotion of comfert and presperity among the poer in the land. In presperity among the poer in the land. In his epinion the problem must be solved by helping the people to help themselves. The Right Hon. E Stanhope speke in the same it is and referring the new American tariff, said he believed it was directed largely against England and Canada, and that it would do

England and Canada, and that it would de Canada serious injury. The working classes in England would suffer to a large extent, but the greater injury would be done to the Americans themselves. It behaved the Government to find fresh outlets for British

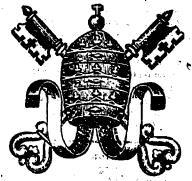
capital.

Mr. Balfour says the cry of a general famine in Ireland is absurd and the authorities will be able to relieve all cases of real distress. MR. MORLEY'S STATEMENTS.

Mr. John Morley delivered an address at Swinden last night. Replying to oriticisms on his recent speech at St. Helens, he rediculed the idea that because he had been a cabi-net minister he should blindfold himself to affairs in Ireland. He said that what pleased nim more than being a minister was being an envey of peace and hepe from England to Ireland. Every word he had told Englishmen about happenings in Ireland was true men about nappenings in Ireland was true and he was glast to have helped in the exposure of the magisterial authorities. Whether rightly or wrengly the government of Ireland was a personal government and, therefore, it was undesirable that it should be an absent government. The ministers responsible ought to be in constant touch with the agents. He blamed the ministers for the condition of the orimes court in Tipperave. After describing the distress in the perary. Alter describing the distress in the congested districts of Ireland, Mr. Morley suggested that a remedy was available by re-newing the proposals as to the Irish land bill made in 1886 and inviting the co-operation of the Irish landlerds,

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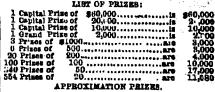
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