

—The Porte has accepted the invitation to take part in the Egyptian conference at London, but reserves the Sultan's serving rights over Egypt.

—One of the clauses of the Irish Land Act provides that tenants who can furnish one-fourth of the purchase money for their farms shall receive a loan of the remainder at 3½ per cent., the object being to enable a peasant proprietary by enabling the small tenant to become land-owners. Unfortunately, the tenants are so poor that the majority of them are utterly unable to raise even one-fourth of the price of the purchase, and, consequently, the purchase clause has practically proved a failure. This failure has led the British Government to prepare and introduce another measure which indicates that the Ministry, in spite of much mismanagement, is anxious to do its best to improve the condition of Irish tenants. Under the provisions of the new bill the whole amount required will be loaned by the Government at 3½ per cent., the amount to be repaid within the year and the instalments. The condition attached to this offer is that a County Board made up of Grand Jurymen and Poor-law Guardians shall guarantee to the payment of the amount of the loan, in the event of default, to the holder. This new measure of confiscation will produce the desired effect remains to be proved. The new Act, if adopted, will enable a large number of tenants to become land-owners on loan and to be very successful.

—Mayor Plegion, Indian agent for the Northern Plains, reports that the Indians are dying in large numbers because of lack of food. He has no count of the scanty food supplied at the agency. It is believed that there have been fully a hundred deaths within the last month. Supplies will be entirely exhausted in another week, and three thousand Indians will be left to starve or subsist upon the cattle of settlers. Trouble is feared unless speedy relief is sent.

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