



THE IRISH VILLAGE AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Perhaps the most important work on a wide scale with which Lady Aberdeen has been connected was that which she undertook in the Woman's Liberal Federation, a body of 80,000 women of which she is at this moment President, although she will retire at the next general meeting. She was elected to this post in succession to Mrs. Gladstone, and the very strongest possible pressure has been brought to bear upon her to induce her to reconsider her determination to resign an office the duties of which she cannot discharge from Ottawa. The Woman's Liberal Federation, it is well to remark, is no mere party caucus. There is no doubt that it was originally started by some wirepullers of the Liberal Party, who imagined that it might be of good service to bring into existence a Liberal counterpart to the Primrose League. The Woman's Liberal Federation, however, no sooner came into being than it developed an independent activity of its own which led it to be regarded with the liveliest feelings of resentment by the caucus managers and wirepullers who had assisted in bringing it into being. The association has had a great and beneficial effect in stimulating women to take an intelligent interest in politics and to make their influence felt in all that relates to the moral and social im-

provement of society. Time and again they have rendered invaluable service to the cause of moral and social reform, and nothing can be further from the mark than to confound such an association of energetic public-spirited women with a mere creature of the party whip. There are women in England who imagine that their only duty in politics is to canvass for a candidate of their party, whoever he may be, and they have formed a small caucus of their own, which is without numbers, without influence and without standing in the country. The Woman's Liberal Federation is a national organization which is growing in strength every year, and which insists on having a voice in the settlement of all national questions. As a means of education as well as an instrument of political influence it fills a very useful part in our political economy. Lady Aberdeen has not been long in the Dominion of Canada, but she has already helped to organize a National Council of Women, the object being to form a body of women representing all phases of women's work in every center of population in the whole Dominion. It is hoped that such a body will promote unity and charity, both amongst religious, philanthropic and secular associations, giving all a chance of knowing of