

# IRISH NEWS.

FROM OUR IRISH EXCHANGES.

## THE IRISH IN ENGLAND.

ADDRESS BY MR. A. M. SULLIVAN, M. P.

Mr. A. M. Sullivan, M. P., delivered, on Sunday evening, February 2nd, an address on "Irishmen in England," to the members of St. Anthony's Young Men's Society, in the school-room attached to St. Anthony's Church, Liverpool. There was a crowded attendance. The chair was occupied by the Rev. P. Murphy, and there was also present Revs. M. Beggan, J. Sheehan, E. Scott, J. Burke; Messrs. C. McArdle, L. Connolly, Dr. Bligh, &c. Mr. Sullivan on entering the room, and also on being introduced to the meeting by the Rev. Chairman, was received with loud applause.

Mr. Sullivan said it would be a great and a noble mission, sufficient to gratify the loftiest and the greatest ambition, for any man to devote his life—as he should like to devote his if he could—to go amongst the Irish people in this great country, and aiding them in their own noble efforts of self-respect, of self-education, of elevating themselves in the social scale, and of reconquering the features of public life and of intellectual vigor that were struck from them and their race by one hundred years of a penal code. He was always rejoiced by any humble effort of his to aid societies and organizations such as that, whether at home or abroad, but all the more anxious should he be to help a society such as that in a country outside of Ireland; because at home in Ireland the faults or the shortcomings of Irishmen might pass unnoticed, and would be covered with the kindly sympathy of a neighbor's mind, but when Irishmen were abroad in other countries their smallest failings, their least trip or stumble, was made a matter of comment by stranger voices, was severely judged against them and their country by judges who had not the key or explanation of much that was in the Irish character. Consequently he had tried to show Irishmen in England that there devoted upon them greater necessity here than at home of being a credit by their lives, and of setting an example to all those around them. The Irishman, sometimes thought that no one knew him here, and that it did not matter much in what way he conducted himself; but this was not so. It was here in England rather than in any other part of the world that Irishmen had to conquer the consideration and respect of the nations of Europe from whom they had hitherto been hidden (applause). Now that society aimed at getting young men together and encouraging them in self-culture, in education, in intellectual recreation, so that they might be better Catholics, better citizens, better men, better sons, fathers and husbands, he would appeal, outside the limits of religious sympathy entirely, to the men in this country who had a large stake in its commercial and material prosperity, and to them he would say that the directors and guides of young men's societies like that had a claim upon the helping hand of every man who was concerned to have a virtuous state of public society created in this country (applause). It occurred to him that he might usefully occupy their time that evening if he were to devote to telling them, according to his experience of five years of Parliamentary life at Westminster, how far he had noticed a subsidence of religious animosities in this country, and if he were to give them exactly his own estimate and opinion of how feelings in which they took a great interest had been treated in the House of Commons. There were men present that evening who were old enough to remember a dreadful time for Irishmen in this country, and that was no longer ago than 1851 and 1852. There were then cities in England in which the torch of fire and the shout of riot surrounded the Catholic churches. The Stockport riots made a terrible fame in this country and at home in Ireland. They could mark a great and happy change between that time and this. He entered the House of Commons prepared to witness some traces of that bitter prejudice which Irishmen had often witnessed there, and felt so long. No, where in this country was there a more significant sign of the progress of public feeling than in that assembly at Westminster. He was going to speak of a stout and firm foe they had, but yet a manly and an honest one—the late Mr. Whalley. (Laughter.) No name that he could mention would be more calculated to stir up the hot feelings of Catholic Celts than that of the late Mr. Whalley; yet, though he (Mr. Sullivan) thought him fanatical, and knew him to be deeply prejudiced, a more honest and sincere man, in his own way, he never met than Mr. Whalley. (Applause.) Speaking of him publicly then for the first time since his decease, he (Mr. Sullivan) an ultra-Ultramontane, said of him that he deplored his decease. (Renewed laughter.) There was Mr. Newdegate to the good—(laughter)—a most respectable gentleman with a craze like poor Mr. Whalley. Now Mr. Whalley was most firmly persuaded in his inmost soul that all the mysterious movements of the universe were caused by the Pope and the Jesuits. (Laughter.) There was an eruption of Mount Vesuvius four years ago, and nothing could get it out of his mind but that it was caused by the Jesuits. (Renewed laughter.) A lamentable occurrence took place off the Isle of Wight, a noble ship went down in a squall; and if they could get at the inner mind of Mr. Whalley, he would tell them that it was either the Pope or the Jesuits, who having a dire animosity to the Protestant ship of a Protestant saint, sent a Polish whirlwind to drive her to the bottom. (Renewed laughter.) There was a time when this sort of nonsense went down in the House of Commons. There was a time when no absurdity was too great for the English people to swallow about Irishmen and the tenets of their creed. He had seen these two gentlemen suppressed, put out, as you would put out a taper, extinguished by the common sense of that assembly. It was impossible in these days to perpetrate the reign of dire prejudice and calumny against people like the Catholics of this country, as long as they lived blameless lives, manfully defended their own sanctuary, and offered no offence to any other man. (Applause.) He had always, when he fairly might, urged his countrymen to conciliate, but he warned them of this, that the man mistook the English nature who thought that it could be conciliated, unless there was strength behind it, the necessity should arise. Let them be strong to defend and quick to repel the attack, but let them not be slow to conciliate. These were the principles which he wanted to urge upon his countrymen in England—deprecating as he did, from his heart, aggressive swagger, or offensive conduct, but not her pitiful prayer for the confidence and vote of the Irish National party.

There must be no faltering on the subject. No matter what question may arise, from that of the "little wars" which proud England has waged, to that of the paving of a street, the Irish representatives, I hold, should put in an appearance in the debate; and, and prolong that debate indefinitely.

Oh! but this is "obstruction," cries either a Whig or Tory Home Ruler. I reply—Call it by what name

Liverpool and in other large cities of this kingdom—though they were rarely seen—the presence of those ministering angels of mercy, the religious, seemed to be exercising a healing and a saving influence on the prejudices that assailed them not long ago, and to be winning sympathy and respect for the character and name of those communities which were a few years ago the objects of the hate and fury of misguided men. These were all signs of the times, signs that ought to encourage them, members of St. Anthony's Young Men's Society, to be a great support not only to their past and present, but also to their own public representatives, such as the gentlemen around him, on the platform that evening. To the Catholics and Irishmen of Liverpool belonged a great honor and a great distinction. Liverpool was the first town or city in Great Britain that set the great example of carrying into the public life of the municipality representatives of the sympathies and minds of Irish Catholics. When the men of Liverpool sent to represent them in the Municipal Council, men like those about him, Englishmen began to think it was full time to take stock of the Irish in England, to recognize that they were going to be a power, that they were worthy of consideration and respect, and must be taken into account by every statesman and public man in the realm. (Applause.) If Irishmen had not done this they might be patronized, but they would not be respected and regarded as they were at the present time. There was a day at hand in England—he would tell them, and he wished that his voice were heard from the Scottish border down to the Southern sea—a time in which men of intelligence and education would carry the day. There never was a country for two thousand years that trusted nearly to wealth or luxury for the maintenance of power, that that country did not crumble and fall. It was so with ancient Greece and Rome, and it would be so with any country in our own times and at any time. That which would rule in England, that which would sway in England, and govern the destinies of England, within the next fifty years, would be the intelligence and intellect of the nation, and he wanted the intelligent, gifted Irish race not to be behind in this great competition. (Applause.) He sometimes visited his countrymen in Staffordshire, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, and he found them doing their duty in the great mines. In London he found them working in the docks. Why were they, with their bright intelligence, doomed to the roughest manual labor? Because in their boyhood they had not in their country the opportunity of education; and they were obliged to drudge instead of being in the high positions in which you found Germans, and Italians, and Scotchmen, and Englishmen, who had emigrated to other countries. Hence he appealed to fathers and mothers, and adjured them by the love of an Irish parent for his child, to remember, however hard their lot may be, they would be bequeathing to their child a great future if they took care to educate them at the present hour. How would he have them use the power that they would attain to in this country? Was it to wreck society? No. To conserve it and to secure blessings for the country and the home they had left behind. He learned from the lips of a great and good man gone—honorable John Martin—the words: "Ireland's right is no man's wrong." They sought not to wrong any man; but whilst they labored for a future in England, they also tried to serve and help the old land at home. (Applause.) He said at a public Conference in Ireland, and he would repeat it now, that he believed in his soul that it was through the efforts of the Irish in England the settlement of the Irish question would finally come. (Applause.)

When a wave of fortune walled him to these shores he felt that he was coming among his own people, and that then devoted upon him, in England, the duty, as far as in him lay, to devote whatever energy he might command to the service of the Irish people in this country—(applause)—and to be ready to rescue them from the horrible temptations surrounding them at every step. When he was determined to fulfil this duty, he also registered a vow that no man should ever insult the Irish in England so long as he had a hand or a tongue to defend them. (Applause.) In conclusion he would say that his own experience in England was full of the most gratifying proofs of the kindness of desire that was beginning to be manifested in this country on the part of fair-minded, honest, tolerant, justice-loving Englishmen who were anxious to show fair play to the feelings and rights of Irishmen. No word should ever be spoken by him to banish that spirit from the public life of this country. It was his (Mr. Sullivan's) ambition to help the Irish in England forward, as far as he could, individually and collectively; and he trusted that when the green grass of, he hoped, an Irish sod was over his grave, it would be remembered for him among the children of the present generation of Irishmen in England that he was ready to take part in their efforts, and that his heart and mind were always with their own. For some reason or other he had always felt as if he were a Liverpool Irishman. As he walked along the streets of Liverpool he heard the accents of his own country, and they were music to his ears. He sometimes went into shops to buy anything for the purpose of speaking to people who had evidently come from the old sod. Every Irish man and woman in Liverpool should act as if the character of their faith and nation depended solely on themselves. The Englishman mistook them when they took the most anxious devotion to their faith as the surest guarantee of their worth in society. The Irishman who was lost to his faith was lost to his God and his country at the same time. (Applause.) If Irishmen were but active, and conducted themselves honorably in all things, they could not but succeed and be a credit to the old faith and the old land. (Applause.)

Mr. Charles McArdle proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Sullivan for his brilliant address. The motion was seconded by Dr. Bligh, and carried with acclamation. A hearty vote of thanks was also accorded to Father Murphy for presiding, after which the meeting separated.

LETTER FROM FATHER LAVELLE.

Cong. 1st February.

To the Editor of the Freeman:

Dear Sir—As it will be impossible for me to attend the coming conference of the Home Rule League, and those of many others with whom I have consulted, on the course of policy which the Home Rule members of Parliament should pursue in the present very serious emergency, may I ask a small portion of your space to express hereby what I would say at the approaching meeting?

Thus there is to my mind only one issue before the Irish people at this moment. It is activity or inactivity; energy or sloth; earnestness or pretence. All these in different terms embody the same idea; and that is, whether the Irish Home Rule party in Parliament are to be permitted, when the occasion arises, to allow either Whig or Tory to have his way unchallenged, when, by the united vote of that party, the scale may be turned. Whether it should or should not be made known to the Government and Opposition alike that the side which engages practically to give Ireland her full, justly demanded and vital (prayer) shall possess the confidence and vote of the Irish National party.

There must be no faltering on the subject. No matter what question may arise, from that of the "little wars" which proud England has waged, to that of the paving of a street, the Irish representatives, I hold, should put in an appearance in the debate; and, and prolong that debate indefinitely.

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you will, it is the only policy to save the country, to carry out Home Rule at the present juncture. The Irish Home Ruler who knows either Whig or Tory in the actual crisis is—I say it with full deliberation—a traitor to the cause of Home Rule. The Irish Home Rule party must be distinct from and independent of both the English parties. It must be "noun substantive" standing by itself. It must be such a power as, on an emergency, can turn the scale, and thus make both the English parties seriously consider whether or not it would not be worth their while to grant the national demand of Ireland—the right to make her own internal laws and assess and expend her own internal taxes.

I am grieved at heart to witness the deplorable divisions in the national ranks. I yield to no man in my respect for my old friend, Mr. Butt. But I must say that of him which was said of the greatest Epic poet the world ever saw or will see:—"The good Homer sleeps between."

I think Mr. Butt is too much afraid of John Bull; and I know that cowards and knaves only grasp at Mr. Butt's great name to sanction their own indolence or treachery.

There is the Hon. Mr. French who had the presumption the other day to put himself out of the way to insult Mr. Parnell—a man as far above the hon. "kid glove" as is the sun above the moon—as being the cause of certain failures in the cause. Why, it is he and such as he who have brought discredit on the cause by their undignified, un-English trucking to anti-Irish feeling in England. Well, I remember the vehemence with which the hon. gentleman stigmatised "those kid glove candidates" who would not touch Home Rule with a poker. 'Tis was at the great conference of 1873. Well, I remember the just indignation and eloquent replies of Mr. Butt and Mr. A. M. Sullivan to the "kid glove" meal-and-water utterances of the O'Connor Don on the same occasion. The latter gentleman, indeed, swallowed the Home Rule pill after the castigation, but has since purged himself of it since. The former has—indeed I fear, the example of Mr. Butt—become the "kid glove" of "kid gloves" of late. However, these are the concerns of the constituents of both hon. members.

I think, too, that when the time comes for the constituents of Sir Patrick O'Brien to come to a reckoning with him they will require of him to show some "why me and reason" for the gross outrage he offered to those poor, generous, open-hearted Irish exiles in England—those "lot of fellows" from Manchester, Birmingham, Bradford, &c., and other towns in England who dared to dictate to Sir Patrick O'Brien, the antiquated Whig.

I have written longer than I intended. I now express "aloha against hope," that despite of intrigue and treachery in certain quarters (I do not include Mr. Butt, there will be a unanimous decision on Tuesday in favor of "union and harmony") in the line of an active, energetic, and when convenient and prudent, an aggressive policy in the approaching session of Parliament.

I remain, yours faithfully,

PATRICK LAVELLE.

COLORED CATHOLICS.—The Mirror of Baltimore states that in that city an average of 150 colored converts are received into the Church every year.

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C. C. FOWLER.

Prescott, October 3rd, 1878.

MR. THOS. J. MASON.

DEAR SIR—I can cheerfully bear testimony to the value of your Magneticon Belt. For some time previously my hands had been so bad with rheumatism that I had almost lost the use of them—now they are well. I am in no suffer from weakness of the throat or lungs. It is invaluable to ministers.

REV. R. P. AUSTIN, M. A.

Post Office, Ottawa, Sept. 10th, 1877.

DEAR SIR—I have much pleasure in informing you of the benefit I have received from the "Magneticon" Belt purchased from you about two months since. The pains that I used constantly to be troubled with in my right hip and across the small of my back have almost entirely disappeared. I had also suffered very much from chronic liver complaint; my liver is now all right, and the general tone of my health is much improved.

Yours very respectfully,

JAMES G. POSTON.

St. James St., St. Catharines, Sept. 4th, 1878.

THOS. J. MASON, ESQ.

DEAR SIR—I procured your "Magneticon" Wristlets on 12th of April last. For some time previously my hands had been so bad with rheumatism that I had almost lost the use of them—now they are well. I am in no suffer from weakness of the throat or lungs. It is invaluable to ministers.

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