

PARNELL DEAD.

The Irish Patriot Dies After a Short Illness.

AN UNEXPECTED EVENT

General Sorrow Expressed.

HIS WORK FOR IRELAND REVIEWED.

Noble Efforts and Great Results.

Telegraphic despatches on Wednesday morning announced the death of Charles Stewart Parnell. The news spread like wild fire and intense excitement prevailed. The True Witness at once obtained special telegrams from the C. P. R. Telegraph and the following was the first from London:

"The news is still confirmed concerning the death of Parnell in Brighton at midnight last night. The announcement causes a tremendous sensation. At first it was feared it was another suicide. This was believed by many in London by whom there was a frequent grouping together of the suicides Balmaceda-Bouffinet and Parnell. This impression was kept up for some time until the details showing the death to have arisen from natural causes and the results of a severe cold were received.

"Nobody was aware he had been ailing, and it was not until the rumors of suicide took possession of the public mind. It is noted that his physicians frequently warned him that he was not strong enough to cross public speaking for a time. He made his last speech in Ireland a week ago on Sunday. It was noted at all recent meetings that he worked himself into a high pitch of nervousness and the tension lasted for days after. Despite the entreaties of Mrs. Parnell he persisted in talking, although he pronounced some to take a rest."

"A late despatch from London says:—Great Britain and Ireland were startled this morning by the utterly unlooked for announcement that Charles Stewart Parnell, the noted Irish leader, had died suddenly yesterday evening at his home in Brighton. It has been well known that Mr. Parnell has not enjoyed the best of health for years past, and it has been noted and widely commented upon that since the O'Shea divorce developments became a matter of public notoriety and three political troubles came upon him, that the great Irish member of Parliament had grown thinner and that he had perceptibly aged in appearance. But nobody expected to hear of his death and no inkling as to his illness had reached the newspapers. Only at this hour it has been possible to obtain details in regard to the death of Mr. Parnell. He died at his home, Walsingham Terrace, Brighton, at 11:30 last night. His death is due to a chill. A physician was called in, with the result that the patient was ordered to take to his bed. This was on Friday last and from that time Mr. Parnell lost strength and finally succumbed. The exact nature of the disease which caused the death of the Irish leader is not made known at present. From the day he took to his bed, however, the state of Mr. Parnell's health has been such as to necessitate the constant attendance of two physicians, in spite of their incessant and untiring efforts to prolong or save life. Mr. Parnell gradually sank lower and lower, until he expired.

SKETCH OF HIS CAREER.

Charles Stewart Parnell was born in Avondale, in the county of Wicklow, Ireland, in June, 1846. His father was John Henry Parnell, an Irish country gentleman of fortune, and his mother before marriage was a Miss Delia Tudor Stewart, a daughter of Admiral Stewart of the American navy, and a woman of great energy and strength of character. When John Henry Parnell met and married while travelling in America. The Parnells came originally of English stock, one of them, Thomas Parnell of Congleton, in Cheshire, having settled in Ireland at the time of the Restoration. The family is Protestant and aristocratic, but it has always been distinguished for the liberality of its views both in religion and politics. Thomas Parnell of Dublin, who came of a branch of the family, attained eminence as a poet and divine in the reign of Queen Anne, and later on the name became a prominent one in the politics of Ireland. The Rt. Hon. Sir John Parnell, "the incorruptible," was Chancellor of the exchequer in Gladstone's Parliament, and was dismissed from that position by Lord Castlereagh because he refused to vote for the Union. His son, Sir Henry Parnell, afterwards became a member of the British Parliament, and was so high in the esteem and confidence of O'Connell, that that gentleman, in 1814, took the Catholic claims away from Gladstone and entrusted him with their championship. John Henry

Parnell, the father of Charles Stewart Parnell, was a nephew of this last gentleman.

The condition of Ireland in 1846 was a sad one in the extreme. The famine, which had set in the preceding year was making havoc among the people. They were dying by the waysides in hundreds and all measures for relief were inadequate or inoperative. The hearts which had erstwhile been buoyant with hope and joyous with anticipations of prosperity and happiness in the glorious prospect of a repeal of the Union, were now subdued and broken beneath the weight of an unutterable and an implacable woe. The future, which but lately had presented to their imaginations the proud picture of a regenerated nationality, was now filled up by the awful figure of Death, raging like a demon throughout the land, here smiting down a family by starvation, there a district by fever, and everywhere exulting amid the cries of the stricken, the groans of the dying, and the wail of the hopeless.

O'Connell and his compatriots did all that it was possible for men to do to avert or to relieve the distress, but their best efforts were necessarily inconsiderable. The glorious career of the great agitator had then reached and passed its zenith. There were grave dissensions in the wonderful organization which he had formed, and in which he had wielded such an extraordinary influence for many years. He saw that thenceforward his power must inevitably decline, and his proud spirit felt it keenly; but more than all he felt the terrible sufferings of his devoted people whom he was powerless to succor. With the agony which only a great nature can feel, he realized, almost in a breath, the blasting of his aspirations for his country and the impending annihilation of his race.

O'Connell died in a foreign land in May, 1847, of a broken heart; but the famine in Ireland continued and the suffering increased with awful rapidity. Three hundred thousand persons died of fever and famine in 1846, and in 1847 five hundred thousand perished, while hundreds of thousands of those who could scrape up the necessary means fled from the country as though it was accursed, as indeed it was, so that at the beginning of 1851 the population had fallen away by two millions and a half.

And during all this time, while the people of Ireland were starving, fleets of ships were sailing with every tide carrying Irish cattle and corn to England.

And in Parliament government was passing Relief acts, which didn't relieve; and Poor laws that made the poor poorer; and Labor Rate bills, under which the people's money was squandered in unproductive schemes; and altogether the legislation was admirably adapted—and perhaps intended—not to relieve, but to permanently pauperize the country.

But this was not the only legislation with which the government of that time busied itself. English statesmen have always professed great faith in the virtues of coercion as a remedy for whatever kind of ill Ireland might happen to be afflicted with. It is a government nostrum which is given her to take, whether she likes it or not, whenever she feels disposed. On this occasion her people were starving for want of food, and the remedial measures having proved unsuccessful alone, it was thought best to try them in conjunction with coercion—coercion before and coercion after. The habeas corpus act was suspended; the treason-felony act became a law; the Nationalist press was proclaimed; the Irish Confederates were disbanded; the gentry were corrupted or frightened half to death, and the people were in despair.

And now took place that forlorn hope in which O'Brien, Dillon, Meagher, Mannus, O'Donoghue and others engaged. It was the last desperate protest of a gallant people against an unjust and tyrannical system of government—and it failed. It was shortly followed by the trials at Clonmel for "high treason," the result being that the prisoners were all convicted and sentenced to death, but the sentences were afterwards commuted to transportation for life.

In the meanwhile large bodies of police and military were kept busily employed in town and country ejecting the poor wretches who could not pay their rents; and in pulling down houses in the search for hidden weapons; and in putting in execution laws which were cunningly devised to clear the land of Ireland of their native occupiers.

The country was never so deeply steeped in poverty and misery, and if its conquest was not consummated then it never will be consummated. The popular leaders were all in prison or in exile; the poorhouses were filled to overflowing, and the dispirited people were either lying down by the roadsides to die, or crowding into emigrant ships to seek more favorable lands to labor in. And the passage of the years up to 1871 brought no improvement. The state of things went from bad to worse, and the London Times was enabled to boast—only too truthfully—"Now for the first time in 600 years England has Ireland at her mercy, and can do with her as she pleases."

Such was the condition of Ireland during the earlier years of the future Irish leader, and although his family's position and means were such as to place him personally above want, he could not but be impressed—child though he was—with the painful events occurring and the misery existing everywhere around him in Ireland.

brother, John H. Parnell, who is now a citizen of and one of the richest peach-growers in Georgia.

On his return to Ireland, Mr. Parnell settled down on his estate in Wicklow to the quiet life of an Irish country gentleman, but he emerged from that seclusion in 1874 to contest one of the seats for Dublin county in the Home Rule interest. It is worthy of remark that in his address to the voters of this constituency, which may be taken as his first public utterance or enunciation of principles, he emphatically pledged himself to "by all means seek the restoration to Ireland of our domestic Parliament." In the election which followed, Mr. Parnell was badly beaten, and he retired from the contest without having given any signs of the possession of more than mediocre abilities.

His next appearance in public was in the press in 1875. Early in that year a vacancy occurred in Tipperary, and John Mitchell, of "48" fame, went over from America to stand for the county. Mr. Parnell applauded Mitchell's intention and wrote a letter to the newspapers expressing approbation of his course. He also subscribed £25 toward the expenses of the contest. Mitchell was elected by an immense majority, but he died almost immediately, and within a week he was followed to the grave by John Martin, his brother-in-law and fellow rebel, the member for Meath.

This left two vacancies in the Home Rule party and Mr. Butt invited Mr. Parnell to stand for that in Meath. He

possessed as an orator and as a debater of very superior gifts, but it may be questioned whether he had to any considerable degree the special qualities which are needed in a leader of men. He was irritable and hasty in temper and was given to magnifying trifling differences of opinion into factious and flagrant acts of opposition, to such a degree as made it hard for men of independence and spirit to get along with him. And these faults grew upon him with years. Referring to this side of Mr. Butt's character, Justin McCarthy, writing in the London Times, for June, 1879, said: "It might have been possible to find a man of far inferior gifts as a debater who could have led the party better. It was surely a mistake in the practical art of leadership when Mr. Butt publicly denounced in the face of the House of Commons the action of certain of the more extreme among his followers. A leader has, in truth, to put up with a good deal of independent, or even eccentric, action on the part of some of his followers now and then, and so long as they are loyal to him on the one question which is the cause and the purpose of the party, he does wisely by letting them have a good deal of their own way."

The mistake alluded to by Mr. McCarthy was made during the debate on the South African bill in the House of Commons in the session of 1877. Messrs. Biggar and Parnell had been seizing every opportunity that offered to put their obstructive tactics into practice,

by the more influential in their own party, but they held to their policy with unabated confidence in its efficacy as an irritant, if not as a remedy.

The sessions of 1878 and 1879 were marked by similar scenes to those which characterized that of 1877, only that obstruction was, if anything, practiced upon a much larger, bolder and more adroit scale. By the latter year, Mr. Butt had lost greatly in the public good will and was practically retired from politics, while Mr. Parnell had risen to the position of a popular idol.

The people with unerring instinct had discovered that the younger man possessed in a larger degree the qualities that go to make a great and a bold leader, and they helped to push him to the front. The delegates of the British Home Rule League, at a convention held in Dublin in 1878, avowedly for the purpose of influencing Irish opinion, renewed their confidence in Mr. Parnell by again electing him to the presidency, and at a great public meeting in the Rotunda in Dublin, in the same year, Mr. Parnell and Mr. Biggar were enthusiastically indorsed.

On the 5th of May, 1879, Mr. Butt died, and his death was widely and sincerely mourned by the Irish people as that of an honest, an upright and a patriotic man. The leadership of the parliamentary party now should have gone to Mr. Parnell, but many of the members thought that he was too young and too rash to occupy such a position; and then again, it was said that by some kind of unsettled right of succession, the leadership devolved upon Mr. William Shaw, the member for Cork county, a most excellent and respectable gentleman, and one who, while not participating in the work of obstruction, was thought to be cordially friendly to Mr. Parnell. He was, therefore, entrusted with the duties and the responsibilities of the position. But his leadership was destined to be a brief one, and Mr. Parnell's star was rising.

While going through Canada lecturing and organizing in March, 1880, the news of the dissolution of Parliament reached Mr. Parnell and put an end to his tour. He received the message in Montreal on a Tuesday and that night he made his farewell address to an immense audience and hastened to New York, where he took the steamer for Ireland. He landed at Queenstown March 21st, and was greeted by the people as a deliverer, towns and cities vying with each other in doing him honor. He now set energetically to work organizing the people in support of the Land League principles and selecting such candidates as would follow out a national policy, and for the next five weeks he gave himself scarcely any rest, so hard did he work, travelling here and there from end to end of Ireland.

But Mr. Parnell was not in a position, at this election, to challenge all the constituencies on the question whether they were in favor of his policy, and as the Land League and the Parliamentary party were at that time distinct organizations his connection with the one did not help him much with the other. He had neither candidates, nor time, nor money, then—for the Land League funds could not be used for election purposes—and the great wonder was that, under the circumstances, he did so well. He worked with a marvellous energy, and succeeded in defeating many of the landlord candidates, but he had to allow several of the constituencies to go by default and many of the members returned were known to be antagonistic to him and his policy.

Although Mr. Parnell was at this time by all odds the most popular man in Ireland, he did not have that hold upon the people's confidence which he has since attained, and the opposition to him and his policy had many elements of strength in the country. The aristocratic influences in the Home Rule party were all against him and the more conservative of the Catholic clergy regarded his policy with distrust and suspicion. In Cork the four Catholic bishops strove hard and successfully to defeat Andrew Kettle, whom he had put forward, going so far as to issue circulars over their Episcopal crosses commending Colonel Colthurst to the voters. But this was an exceptional case, and in justice to the bishops and priests of Ireland it should be said that they loyally ranged themselves by the side or at the head of their people in this as in all previous Irish movements. And it may be added, in extenuation of the course pursued by the more conservative among them, that they were a very numerous body only men who distrusted Mr. Parnell in 1880. He was as yet young and almost an untried man, and many of his fellow-members in the last Parliament—even among the more patriotic ones—had opinions of his judgment and capacity which were far from complimentary to one who aspired to the leadership of a people.

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St. James Church.

The experts appointed to examine the steeple of St. James Church on St. Denis street, lately condemned by the Building Inspector, have reported to the Superior of the Seminary that the upper part only is dangerous, and suggest certain precautions which will be taken at once to strengthen the structure. The Building Inspector completely approves of the measures to be taken.

Mr. Boyer's Movements.

Hon. Mr. Boyer, who has been fishing and shooting on the Labrador coast, returned to Quebec on Monday morning and looks the picture of health. When questioned as to his resignation he refused to say anything, preferring not to talk on politics. He was closeted with Count Mercier for some time, and left for Montreal.

GLADSTONE'S SPEECH

IN RELATION TO HOME RULE.

The Promises of the Liberals When They Come into Power—Opinions of the Press.

NEWCASTLE, October 3.—In his speech here last night Mr. Gladstone said he was glad the Government intended to introduce a local government bill for Ireland, as local government must assist Ireland to obtain national right. But, he remarked, it was an idle tale, that of local government without control of the police. Mr. Gladstone combated the assertion that the government of Ireland had been a success. The Government had interfered with private liberty in Ireland in a manner that would not be tolerated in this country. One reason for the increased observance of the law in Ireland was the friendship of the people of Great Britain. Mr. Gladstone continued: "I ask myself what is the motive that induces our opponents to persist in this, for them, hopeless contest. What is the object they propose? Is it because they are governed by the fear of an Irish nation? Well, it is an Irish nation under five millions and a government always fond of assuring us that two of those five millions are enthusiastically on their side. The majority is credited with the diabolical intention to oppress the minority. Yet one would think that this minority was not wholly incapable of some efforts in its own defence, especially when it is supported by 35,000,000 of English, Scotch and Welshmen, not one of whom would for a moment tolerate the slightest indication of such an oppression. (Laughter and cheers.) It is not fear for the reputation of the country, is it, that compels that their policy in Ireland be continued? The reputation of a country is measured by a standard easily got at if it means what its neighbours think of it. The reputation of Russia is probably very high with certain parties in Russia itself. It would not be so high, however, if measured by the opinion of the civilized world. (Cries of "hear, hear.") A condemnatory verdict was long ago pronounced by England with reference to her conduct toward Ireland. Is it because the Government think their policy contributes toward the strength of the Empire that that policy is continued? The strength of the Empire consists in entire unity. Is it for the interest of the public purse, then? Not less than three millions is annually thrown into the sea under the operations of the present legislation in Ireland. I refer to the arrears in public business. Parliament will never overtake these arrears until this terrible Irish policy is out of the way. In the period to come it is clear that it must be either friendship or enmity with Ireland. "You have arrived at a point decisive in your history. If Ireland is oppressed hereafter it will be

OPPRESSED BY YOU,

people of England. The spectacle of one people oppressing another is the saddest, most heartrending and lumbing that can be seen on the surface of the earth. I can never believe that a great nation will place itself in such a position. Ireland's conduct in the difficult circumstances of the last nine months (hear, hear) has evoked in every breast a responsive voice of sympathy and of increased conviction that we may deal safely and prudently with our fellow subjects in Ireland. When the proper period comes the general sense of the country will ratify the judgment already given at nearly a hundred points." At the conclusion of Mr. Gladstone's speech there was an outbreak of cheering which lasted several minutes.

The Dublin Freeman's Journal, discussing Mr. Gladstone's utterances last night, expresses the opinion that "no man, after reading Mr. Gladstone's speech, can doubt for a moment his intention to pass a measure for Home Rule that will be satisfactory to the Irish people with all the dispatch that the laws of the country will admit."

United Ireland publishes an interview with Parnell, in which he contended that Gladstone in devoting three-fifths of his speech to other subjects, although he formerly declared he must leave everything but the question of Home Rule to younger men, proved that he followed the "swing round" of the Liberal party. It was true that he claimed Ireland should control the police force in that country, but that did not mean the constabulary, which he desired should be disbanded. Therefore on that subject he was in the same position as in 1886. This, Parnell declared, would be severe disappointment for the seceders.

Mr. Gladstone has written to Mr. Scott, of Manchester, in support of the latter's candidature for member of Parliament for the Northwest division of that city. Mr. Gladstone says his good wishes do not imply animosity to Mr. Scott's antagonist, Sir James Ferguson, but to the Government's policy, which belies the honorable name.

"Unionism," continues Mr. Gladstone, "by creating disunion between the two countries has impaired the strength of the empire. There will surely be incapacity in Parliament to grapple with diverse questions of legislation, on all of which a decision is loudly demanded, as long as it is impeded by the controversy on the Irish problem. All considerations are absorbed in the importance of closing this fruitless controversy that divides the country."

The sweetest moments of physical enjoyment are after pain. They are like the bright gleams of sunshine which break through the dark clouds after a storm.



CHARLES STEWART PARNELL.