

liberal spirit which that newspaper agitates every question it takes in hand. But what has been the course of the *Mail*? The *Mail* played shy for a long time. It followed the course which is usually followed by the leader of the Government in an important question. It wanted, first, to see how the wind would blow, to see what course would be taken by its leaders, and after hesitating a long time, it mustered courage enough to come out and express opposition to Home Rule. Irishmen have not much to thank the *Mail* for. They will be able to see through the course taken by the *Mail* and by the hon. gentlemen opposite, and I do not believe they will be a party to this scheme of blinding the eyes of those who sympathise with Home Rule and hoodwinking the Irish population. The people will see through this thin garment of hypocrisy, and give the leader of the Opposition credit for his sincerity, notwithstanding the efforts made by hon. gentlemen opposite to decry and distort his motives. I am exceedingly sorry to see that hon. gentlemen opposite should play dog-in-the-manger in the way they are attempting to do, simply because they are not honored with having introduced the resolution, because they lost their opportunity. They waited day after day and week after week, they felt the pulse of the outside press, and no doubt they consulted their political leader. They studied the question, they were approached by Irishmen in the city of Ottawa and no doubt from elsewhere, they were written to, they were advised, they were encouraged, they were urged, they were pressed to bring in this resolution, but all the pressure and all the encouragement they got failed to have the desired effect. Then, when the resolution is introduced, they begin to see that they have lost a grand opportunity, they have thrown away their changes, they have sacrificed the opportunity of making themselves popular, and, in order, if possible, to turn the tide of venom and ill-feeling and contempt which they naturally deserve from the Irishmen outside of this House whom they claim to represent and to lead, they want now to kick up a little dust and try if they can get an amendment introduced, try to get some little change made, and try to persuade the people: "Did we not do the business after all; it was not Mr. Blake at all, it was we." Do you not see what has pinched the Minister of Inland Revenue? He feels that he is out-generalled. Look at the devoted utterances that hon. gentleman used on the occasion of this question being discussed in 1882. Read the utterances of the member for Montreal (Mr. Curran) on that occasion. Could anyone speak in a more patriotic and glowing style on the advantages of Home Rule in Ireland? Yes, they tried it to make capital out of it then, and no doubt they will try some more of the same kind. I suppose we shall have an address from others on that side of the House on this subject. No doubt the member for Montreal and the Minister of Inland Revenue will not be allowed to stand alone. No doubt the First Minister will address the House. We expect him to. No doubt we shall hear from the Minister of Customs, he is an Irishman.

Mr. BOWELL. You are wrong.

Mr. McMULLEN. We also expect the hon. member for North Simcoe (Mr. McCarthy) to speak. Surely he is going to say a word on this question.

Mr. McCARTHY. Yes.

Mr. McMULLEN. And the hon. member for Hastings (Mr. White), surely we will have a word from him on this question.

Mr. WHITE (Hastings). I am opposed to it.

Mr. McMULLEN. All these men will rise, and they will deplore the unfortunate spirit that actuated the leader of the Opposition in introducing a question of this kind without consulting hon. gentlemen opposite. It was a sad

Mr. McMULLEN,

thing, and on him must rest the responsibility of the defeat, if it is defeated. They are sorry he has placed it in the unfortunate position in which it is placed before the House, and that they have been compelled to take the stand they have, and it is only in the interest of Home Rule they are doing it. If it were not that they are so devoted to the cause of Home Rule and to the cause of Ireland, they would sacrifice a little to meet the views of the leader of the Opposition, but they are so devoted to that cause that they dare not allow this resolution to pass, they must amend it in some way, it is so crude, it is placed in such a position, they feel that the Queen would not be honored to receive an address based upon such a resolution without passing their glossy hands over it and putting it in proper shape. No doubt we shall hear a good deal in regard to that, and a great many expressions of regret that the hon. the leader of the Opposition did not take time. He did it too hurriedly, he got it up too quickly, it is badly worded, it is a pity it is presented in that shape, and a great many other faults of that kind will be found, and they will try to show that it is a deplorable thing that he should have permitted himself to be driven to bring in this resolution without consulting gentlemen opposite and getting them to put it in decent shape so that it might look creditable. I deplore the spirit that has been evinced by hon. gentlemen opposite in connection with this question. If they had accepted the action of the hon. the leader of the Opposition in the spirit in which it was tendered, I believe this question might have passed this House unanimously, and they would have had just as much credit by taking that course as they will have now by the course they have adopted, just as much credit by casting in their lot unanimously with the hon. the leader of the Opposition as by attempting in this cheese-paring kind of style to interfere and to dabble with the resolution, and to try to cut and carve it so that, when they go to the country in a few months, they will say: "Why, it was we, after all that prepared that resolution; had we permitted it to go home in the shape in which it was prepared by the leader of the Opposition it would have been deplorable, it would not have suited Mr. Gladstone, and Mr. Parnell would have been horrified, the country would have risen, and said, are there no men in Canada able to prepare something decent to send to the Queen instead of sending a Home Rule resolution in this style, in place of something like the production of a man of brains and sense." But, no matter how they may talk, they have got into an unfortunate dilemma, and they will try to struggle out of it as best they can. They will all try to show willingness. The hon. Minister of Inland Revenue has given the cue, and according to that they will all preach and prattle the doctrine he has laid down as to the desirability of sending an address merely to Mr. Gladstone and not to the Queen. I am rather disposed to think that hon. gentlemen opposite, notwithstanding all their vaunted loyalty as Conservatives, are disposed to ignore the Queen in this question. They do not seem to be disposed to acknowledge the Queen. The idea of men led by the First Minister daring to petition the First Minister of England on a matter of this kind without sending it to the Queen! I am surprised. A knight, a man honored by the Queen, several of his colleagues honored by the Queen, to think that they would send it to the First Minister instead of the Queen, instead of to the Crown! Surely the First Minister has not had the concocting of this matter. Surely he has not been consulted. Surely he would not propose to ignore the Queen. He is disposed to express a great deal of loyalty, and, whenever any question comes up on which the Queen might be approached or the Government of England, he displays a great deal of loyalty and respect for the Crown and the Queen. We all do, and I am sorry that hon. gentlemen are disposed to reflect upon Her Majesty the Queen in connection