

[Continued from first page.]

# PARNELL

## Still Leads the Irish People.

### A SERIOUS DISSENSION.

The National Party Divides—Parnellites in the Minority.

LONDON, December 6.—At one o'clock to-day the Irish members of the House of Commons reassembled in the committee room of the House of Commons, which had been set apart for their use. The first business transacted was the reading of Gladstone's letter. Gladstone remained firm in his determination to in no way recognize Parnell as the leader of the Nationalists, and his opinion was emphasized by his letter in which he offered to conduct negotiations with a new Irish leader on a footing of confidence equal to that which he once accorded to Parnell. He acknowledged the receipt of the two resolutions adopted by the Irish caucus, and said among other matters:

"I cannot undertake to make any statement of our intentions on these or any other provisions of a home rule bill in connection with a question of leadership. When the Irish party cast this question entirely to their own competence, in such a manner as will enable me to renew my former relations with the Irish party, it will be my pleasure to enter without prejudice into confidential communications such as heretofore occurred on occasions when I have been consulted by the Irish party, upon all amendments of particulars and suggestions of improvements in any plan for a measure of Irish home rule. I assure you that it is my desire to press forward at the first favorable opportunity a just and effective measure of home rule. I recognize and earnestly seek up the independence of the Irish party no less than that of the Liberal party. Finally, I would reiterate that my object is to secure for the Irish people a measure of home rule which will be the result of the unqualified political faith of the Irish party and no leader could ever propose or hope to carry a scheme for home rule that does not have the cordial concurrence and support of the Irish nation.

"With this statement of my views and those of my colleagues, I recognize that you will agree with my opinion that there would be no advantage in a further personal interview."

The reading of the letter was greeted with cheers by the section of the party opposing Parnell and with ironical cries by his supporters.

A STORMY DEBATE followed. At 3.15 o'clock the members reassembled. A strongly worded letter from Archbishop Walsh was read demanding Mr. Parnell's removal.

John O'Connor moved the adoption of a resolution declaring that Mr. Gladstone's letter was not satisfactory and that Ireland required assurances regarding the constabulary and land questions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kenny.

Mr. Abraham then made a motion that Mr. Parnell vacate the chairmanship. Mr. Parnell refused to allow the motion to be put, and an exciting scene arose. As a written resolution was being handed in by Justin McCarthy, Mr. Parnell leaned across the table, struck Mr. McCarthy's hand, seized the resolution and tore it to pieces.

Parnell and McCarthy stood addressing each other, but their words were rendered inaudible owing to the confusion and cries of "ohai," "order." When quiet was restored Parnell said: "Until the party deposes me I am your chairman."

Barry—You are not our chairman. Parnell—Yes; Mr. McCarthy attempted to move a resolution surreptitiously.

Mr. Healy—Give us back our resolution. The disorder and interruption were renewed, Mr. Parnell continuing to rule that O'Connor had the floor.

Parnell—Respect the chair. Sheehy—We will respect the chair if it respects the meeting.

Arthur O'Connor appealed to his friends to show EVERY POSSIBLE RESPECT to their late leader.

Mr. McCarthy said he had only risen to a point of order. Someone had handed him a paper and the chairman struck it out of his hand.

Parnell—I took it out of your hand. Col. Nolan—He did not strike your hand.

Mr. McCarthy insisted the paper was struck out of his hand.

Parnell—You were about to put some resolution, thereby usurping my functions.

McCarthy—I was not. I expected courtesy at your hands.

Mr. O'Connor then moved that the meeting regrets and calls the attention of the country to the fact that though the resolution was altered to meet Mr. Gladstone's objections to negotiate, he still refuses to confer with the party unless Parnell is removed.

He urged that Gladstone's reply proved Parnell's contention that it was impossible to get a direct answer from him. Gladstone, he said, was sacrificing Irish interests to a manufactured English feeling.

Mr. Kelly, in seconding O'Connor's motion, warned the Healyites of the grave responsibility of forming a separate party.

Mr. Abraham pointed out the danger of a Liberal defeat at the general election in case their action should induce Gladstone to retire. As Parnell refused to resign they would be wanting in respect to themselves if they longer delayed bringing matters to an issue, the chairman having indignantly treated and torn Mr. McCarthy's resolution.

Mr. Parnell—that is untrue. Mr. Abraham said it would be shameful to allow the minority to continue making the party a laughing stock. Parnell and his adherents desired to appeal to Caesar, but his side was quite willing to abide by the decision of the Irish people. He proposed an amendment that Parnell's chairmanship be terminated.

Mr. Nolan protested that Mr. Abraham was out of order.

Arthur O'Connor quietly protested against the obstructive tactics of the minority, which would indefinitely delay the decision the majority had a right to record. O'Connor continued amid approving cheers to argue that the time had arrived to cease talking and end what was rapidly becoming a disgraceful farce. "I ask the overwhelming majority of this party," he concluded, "to at once record their decision, if not here, then elsewhere."

Justin McCarthy said he thought that the time had come to close the debate. He had hoped up to last night that Parnell would help them out of their terrible national difficulty. He felt that it would be a waste of time to discuss the matter further. He suggested that all agreeing

### WITH HIM WITNESSED.

Justin McCarthy, son of Justin McCarthy, arose from his seat and denounced Parnell as the insulter of his father and an enemy to his country. He declared that he had hitherto acted with Mr. Parnell, but that henceforth he would repudiate him. Then the anti-Parnellites, headed by Justin McCarthy, left the room. They numbered 45 and then held a meeting in a conference room. The meeting, by a unanimous vote, elected Justin McCarthy chairman. It is the intention to appoint a council of eight members to assist the chair. When Mr. McCarthy had assumed the chair, the meeting considered the following resolution:

"We, the members of the Irish parliamentary party, solemnly renew our adhesion to the principle in devotion to which we have never wavered; that the Irish party is now and always must remain independent of all other parties."

Further, we declare that we will never entertain any proposal for a settlement of the Home Rule question, except such as satisfies the aspirations of the Irish nation and the Irish people.

The resolution, which was proposed by Timothy Healy and seconded by Mr. Sexton, was unanimously adopted. The result was immediately communicated to Mr. Gladstone. Upon learning what had been done Mr. Gladstone exclaimed:—"Thank God; home rule is saved."

After McCarthy and his followers withdrew, Col. Nolan in a speech to those remaining with Parnell said: "Whatever Parnell's position was in the next two or three years, he would be ranked with O'Connor as the greatest Irishman of the last three centuries." (Cheers.)

Mr. Parnell said: "The deserters, knowing we were going to Ireland tomorrow, clamored for a decision because they dreaded the lighting of public opinion in Ireland. Gentlemen, we have won the day. (Loud cheers.) Although our ranks are reduced, I hold this chair still. (Cheers.) Although many comrades have left us Ireland has power to fill their places. I little know our gallant country, if I am mistaken in the opinion that which she gets an opportunity, she will freely exercise the power."

Parnell further said that the deserters stood in the contemptible position of men who, having pledged themselves to be true to their party, their leader and their leader and their country, have been false so all. (Loud cheers.) John O'Connor's resolution was carried by acclamation.

Parnell has told his friends that he will go to Ireland forthwith, and constitute a national party. He speaks confidently of carrying the country with him at the general election. The Irish parliament, a fund, amounting to £20,000, remains under the control of Mr. Parnell, with the exception of £1,200, which is in the hands of the treasurer.

Meetings held at Labasheeds, Co. Clare at Castlebar by the clergy and guardians have voted confidence in Parnell. A meeting was held on Sunday at Phoenix Park presided over by the Lord Mayor unanimously supported Parnell and burned an effigy of Healy. In Cork the National League condemned Parnell. At Maryborough though the clergy condemned the leader of the Nationalists he was endorsed at the public meeting. At Limerick public sentiment is all in Parnell's favor.

The advisability of Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien returning by way of France, where a convention could be held at which the advice of the envoys could be obtained before their arrest is discussed. Messrs. Gilhooly, P. O'Brien, Carey, and Mahan are still clasped with the doubtfuls. The strength, therefore, of the McCarthyites is 50 and of the Parnellites 20.

### A UNITED VOTE.

LONDON, December 8.—The anti-Parnellite members of the House of Commons made an early appearance in the House to-day. Forty-one of them entered the chamber in a body and took the principal places on the first four benches below the gang-way, with a view to prevent the Parnellites from occupying their usual seats. Col. Nolan and John Deasy entered later and contrived to secure seats. Mr. Parnell's seat had also been reserved, he having at an earlier hour affixed a ticket to it. Mr. Healy arrived later than his colleague. When he entered he took Mr. Parnell's seat, but McCarthy warned him to vacate it. The party appeared to be in excellent spirits. They cheered loudly when Mr. Deasy, the anti-Parnellite whip, advanced to the Speaker's chair and moved the issue for a new writ for an election in North Kilkenny, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Edward Marum. The writ was issued.

Mr. McCarthy, amid the cheering of his supporters, gave notice that on the reassembling of the House he would call attention to the circumstances in connection with the recent arrest and prosecution of Messrs. Dillon and O'Brien and would move a resolution in relation to the case.

Wm. Henry Smith, the Government leader announced that when the House went into committee on the Land Purchase bill he would move adjournment of the House until January 2.

Mr. Balfour moved the second reading of the Land Department (Ireland) bill.

Mr. Healy moved to adjourn the debate on the ground that the Government was treating the House with contempt in not explaining the provisions of the bill.

Subsequently Mr. Healy withdrew his motion to adjourn and submitted an amendment calling for the rejection of the Land Department bill. This was defeated and the bill passed its second reading, 191 to 129.

Mr. Parnell entered the House just before the division. He took a seat next to Mr. McCarthy and voted, as did all the Irish members of both sections present, against the bill.

William Henry Smith announced that when the House re-assembled, January 22, the Private Procedure and Tithes bills would be first taken up.

In response to the call issued by Justin McCarthy, the leader of the anti-Parnellite section of the Irish party

ALL THE MEMBERS of the party who opposed Mr. Parnell

assembled to-day to further consider the line of policy to be adopted. Copies of the call had been addressed to Mr. Parnell and his supporters, but none of them were present. A council comprising eight members, Messrs. Abraham, Dillon, O'Brien, Healy, Arthur O'Connor, Thos. Power O'Connor, Sexton and Sheehy, was appointed a committee to assist Mr. McCarthy in deciding the further action of the party. The meeting was presided over by Mr. McCarthy. After the appointment of the council an adjournment was taken.

Before adjourning the meeting unanimously authorized Mr. McCarthy to prepare an address to the Irish people at home and abroad. In this he will give the present aspect of the Irish question and outline the future policy of his party. Sir Thomas Grattan Esmonde was appointed an additional whip.

The subscriptions to the fund for the establishment in Dublin of a new daily paper devoted to the interests of the anti-Parnellite section of the Nationalist party have reached many thousands of pounds.

Thomas Power O'Connor is mentioned as likely to be editor of the new paper.

Prof. J. Stuart, member of the House of Commons from the Hoxton division of Shorditch, who with Henry Labouchere was charged by Mr. Parnell with being engaged in a conspiracy with the anti-Parnellite section of the Irish members of the House, visited Mr. Gladstone to-day and spent some time in conference with him.

Mr. Davitt, in a speech at Stratford to-day, said that while it could not be denied that recent events had seriously endangered the cause of Ireland, he was glad to be able to say that during the controversy little had been said on either side of which Ireland need be ashamed. He was confident that both sides would remain true to the principle of national self-government, and he did not believe either Mr. Gladstone or the British democracy would go back on Ireland now.

Mr. Davitt will go to Ireland to assist in the campaign of the anti-Parnell party. In an interview Mr. Davitt said that since he resigned the trusteeship of the League fund he had been uncertain as to what disposition was made of the fund. The amount of £32,000 was deposited with Munroe & Co. in Paris in 1882, and he believed that since the death of Mr. Egan the money had been in the hands of Parnell and McCarthy. But it was never intended, he said, that Mr. Parnell should have sole control of the fund.

CHICAGO, December 6.—The Irish envoys left for New York at 5 o'clock this afternoon. Mr. Dillon on behalf of himself and his fellow envoys made the following statement:

"We have up to the present time maintained silence and abstained from expressing any opinion of the situation at home out of respect for the deliberations of our colleagues. We have today received assurance that the Parliamentary Fund Association of New York, otherwise known as the Hoffman House company, which raised \$300,000 and turned it over to Parnell personally at the time of the last general election, heartily endorses our action and that the municipal council of the League of New York also supports us."

The Chronicle publishes an interview with Cardinal Manning, in which he says his opinion is admirably expressed by the manifesto issued by the Irish hierarchy, which he believes will gain in influence, because it took due time to consider the question before issuing the manifesto. He thought the manifesto would carry great weight both in Ireland and America. He agreed entirely with the views it expressed, both politically and morally; but Parnell's retirement should be made compulsory on moral grounds, politics being a secondary consideration. Parnell's followers, however, were justified in demanding his resignation on political grounds alone.

The Dublin correspondent of the Catholic News, of New York, states that Parnell has confided to some of his friends that "at the proper time" he will yet be able to prove his innocence. The correspondent also says that a servant girl has confessed that she was offered a large bribe to swear she saw improper conduct between Parnell and Mrs. O'Shea.

A letter from the archbishop and bishops was read in all the Catholic churches in Ireland after the celebration of the Masses on Wednesday. At St. Colman's cathedral, Queenstown, after the letter had been read, Rev. Father Fisk addressed the congregation. He declared that it was no longer possible for Parnell to remain at the head of the Irish party. He had disgraced, dishonored and degraded himself by his own acts and could not lead the smallest section of the Irish people. In refusing to recognize the authority of the bishops Parnell was doing incalculable mischief to the Irish cause and was performing the work of the enemy and was rendering the people disunited and distracted. At the Catholic church in Mitchelstown the officiating priest, after reading the declaration of the hierarchy, warned the supporters of Parnell throughout his district not to defy their spiritual superiors.

MASS MEETING IN MONTREAL. A meeting of Irishmen to express confidence in Parnell was called last Sunday in Montreal and was held at the Young Irishmen's hall. Mr. C. J. Doherty, Q.C. occupied the chair and in opening the proceedings said that in the present crisis of affairs there was one subject of paramount importance to the Irish people and that was the welfare of Ireland. He spoke of the old time enthusiasm of the Irish people when years ago they would meet Sunday after Sunday. There was then some purpose in meeting as the great Irish cause was at that time in its infancy. The speaker had the honor on several occasions to represent the Irish cause, and very often met with men who differed with him as to the means of carrying on the work. On one of those occasions, as the representative of the Canadian branch of the League, he was asked for the views of the people of Canada on the subject, and in reply said: "We are Parnellites of the Parnellites." The meeting to-day he remarked, might not be entirely that way, but he thought they should know before going further that he was a Parnellite of the Parnellites of to-day. (Cheers.) He was just as proud of Parnell now as in the "old dark days when he took up the cause of

the Irish, but some have changed because of what may be termed his offense. He felt very strongly in the matter, but as chairman would not care to express himself just then. He would not say one word of disrespect against those who do not take the same view of the situation as himself and hoped that during the debate that would follow they would bear no word of recrimination against men who have taken sides in the controversy. The object of the meeting was to pronounce an opinion upon the man who had led the Irish people out of the house of bondage to the border of the promised land and whether or not he was to be replaced by another man.

Mr. H. J. Cloran arose and proposed the following resolution:

"That this meeting agrees with Cardinal Manning who says that Parnell should be deposed only on political grounds, and this meeting avers there are no political grounds upon which to demand the deposition of Mr. Parnell from the leadership of the Irish people."

In support of his motion Mr. Cloran said they had nothing to discuss but the political

MERITS OF THE QUESTION. He did not believe the charges against Parnell were true and as did Archbishop Walsh asked the people to withhold their judgment against the oath of an O'When and a Cockney cook. Cardinal Manning had said that the retirement of a leader like Parnell should only take place for political reasons and he asked what grounds there were?

Chorus of voices—"None."

Continuing, he said it was Parnell who made the Irish party and not the Irish party that made Parnell. He then referred to the attitude of Gladstone towards Home Rule from the beginning of that movement until the present time. The wish of Gladstone, he thought, was to get rid of the Irish leader, and then to secure a leader for the Irish party upon whom he would find it easier to force his views of Home Rule. "Asked to throw Parnell overboard!" he exclaimed.

Voices from the audience—"Never!"

The speaker allowed that there was an element of jealousy and rivalry in the party, but the vast majority were actuated by good motives, but denied that there was any cause whatsoever for throwing over Parnell. The Irish party was not to form a part of the English Liberal party, its only good being in its independence, and Parnell's usefulness was too great to be cast aside. Should he resign the leadership it would only be on the solicitation of his friends and not on the part of intriguers. Ireland and liberty owe too much to Parnell to decapitate him on the impulse of the moment.

Mr. Frank Langan seconded the resolution.

Dr. Guerin said he thought the proceedings were premature and moved an amendment to the effect that it would be injudicious at present to express any opinion for publication.

Mr. Denis Tansey seconded the amendment, which after some discussion was lost only ten voting for it. The original motion was then carried unanimously and cheers after a few closing remarks from Mr. Doherty who said there had been a difference upon expediency and not upon the question of the debt the Irish owe to Parnell, and has resulted from a misapprehension of what the motion conveys and not on the subject itself. Every man will bow to the decision of the Irish party and follow on in the event of the selection of another leader, however much his ability to do so would be doubted. He congratulated the meeting on the result of the meeting and asked permission to cable the resolution to Parnell at his own expense.

CORRESPONDENCE. Proposed Intercourse Society.

To the Editor of THE TRUE WITNESS: DEAR SIR.—Having read the letter in your last week's issue, signed "English Catholic," I wish to say a few words in praise of the good work therein outlined. First of all (I write as a convert), what better proof can we show of loving our neighbour as ourselves than to do what lies in our power towards bringing him into the True Fold, where Almighty God, in His infinite mercy, has been pleased to lead us? Besides, we owe a perpetual thanksgiving to our dear Lord for having lightened our darkness; and this society, outlined by "English Catholic," gives us a beautiful opportunity of offering up this thanksgiving by devoting our spare time to prayers and good works for the conversion of our fellow-countrymen.

I am sure all English Catholics, whether converts or not, who read the letter I have referred to, will come forward and help to form this society; and I would ask all Catholics, of whatever nationality, to offer up daily a *Pater and Ave* for the success of the good work.

Let us pray for zeal and strength to carry on the good fight of those who embraced a life of self-denial and suffering to bring back the land we love so dearly to the "Faith of Our Father."

CONVERT.

The Late Rev. Mother St. Thomas. The Catholic Young Men's Society held its usual weekly meeting in St. Alexander street Hall. Rev. James Callaghan, Director, referred to the prosperity of the society and drew a nice picture of the fraternal feeling that reigns paramount among the members. A vote of condolence, in favor of the late Rev. Mother St. Thomas, was moved by J. J. Ryan, seconded by M. Cuddy, and unanimously carried.

WHEREAS—God, in His incomprehensible ways, has withdrawn from this land of exile one of His own consecrated virgins, Rev. Mother St. Thomas, a distinguished daughter of the Notre Dame congregation nuns and a loving sister of our much respected member Arthur Barry, we, in meeting assembled, bowing in holy obedience to the designs of Divine Providence, do hereby transmit to her bereaved mother the sincere expressions of our condolence on the occasion of her great loss and solicit her to complete now in her hour of trial the noble sacrifice begun years ago when she saw her loved one renounce the world and devote herself to the lot of the altar her divine Spouse as her only inheritance.

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