

to accomplish, he threatens to sacrifice Great Britain to the tune of "£150,000,000 during the next four or five years." A forced system of purchase in houses or lands, or of anything, is a most tyrannical one; and when such is forced upon a large majority by a small malcontent minority it becomes barbarous in the extreme. Such has been the case in this Island, by the introduction of the freehold or forced purchase system of land tenure; and will be the same in Ireland if Land Leagueism bears its legitimate fruits. Yet to aid this humane organization of Fenian malcontents, foreign branches of the Irish Land League are established on this continent, and all Irish Yankeedom is wild with sympathetic excitement, for the redress of Ireland's wrongs. But the combined faction of Communists, Irish Land Leaguers, and Fenians are no more fit to rule Ireland in this century than the Jacobites and malcontents who ruled it for a period in the reign of King James the second. For a time in this reign Ireland was under the benign influences of Irish home rule. She possessed a Parliament, but there was neither law nor government. The mob ruled supreme, and robbers were lords of all they surveyed. Even the armies of James,—composed chiefly of the "scoff" of Ireland and other parts of Europe,—were allowed the special privilege of marauding and plunder, in order to make up deficiencies in their pay. The country was in a state of devastation and ruin. Men who went to sleep at night rich in flocks and herds, awoke in the morning to find themselves beggars. The principles of modern Irish home rule are the same now as they were then. The Irish Land League and Home Rule party, notwithstanding their professions, seek to rob the owners of land in Ireland of their rents and estates, for the benefit of the subjects of Parnell's agrarian mobocracy.

As well may any agrarian faction of "boycotters" Fenians and Socialists move for the abolition of the system of house and land tenure by rent, in cities and towns,—under a promise-to-purchase arrangement,—as to ask for what the Irish Land League is now agitating for. The rights of property, equitable, mutual and