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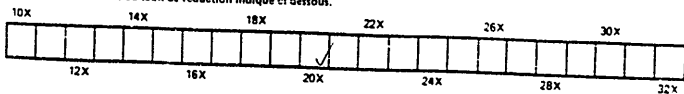
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Chats with the Children

AT THE PHOTOGRAPHER'S.

Some say kittens are only duff, But I am made of sterner stuff. Please, Mr. Photographer Man, Make me look as graceful as you can. Take me now! I've ruled my hair, And put on my very finest stare. For when I grow up I mean to be A great big lion. You wait and see How I'll lash my tail and skako my mane!

And chase the wild mice over the plain! And when I'm tired my thirst I'll slake With milk from a saucer as big as a lake.

Please, Photographer, make me gruff, And not like a little white ball of fluff. —Oliver Morford, in St. Nicholas.

DID YOU EVER THINK.

That a kind word put out at interest brings back an enormous percentage of love and appreciation?

That though a loving thought may not seem to be appreciated, it has yet made you better and braver because of it?

That the little acts of kindness and thoughtfulness day by day are really greater than our immense act of goodness once a year?

That to be always polite to the people at home is not only a lady-like, but more refined than having "company manners"?

That to learn to talk pleasantly about nothing in particular is a great art, and prevents you from saying things that you may regret?

That to judge anybody by their personal appearance stamps you not only as ignorant but vulgar?

That the ability to keep a friend is very much greater than that required to gain one?

THE HOLIDAYS.

Now that the holidays are here the cousins can send me some letters and let our circle know what they are doing, how they are spending the summer; and if they go away they must keep their eyes open, and write us an account of all they see.

Don't forget the poem competition, the poems must not exceed four verses of four lines each, and must reach me no later than Thursday of next week.

COULDN'T BE DONE.

"Boys," began the Sunday School superintendent, impressively, "I hope none of you will ever get into the reprehensible habit of alluding to your father as 'the old man.' When you grow up, no matter how big or old, you should always look up to and respect the silver hairs of your father, who has grown bent and grey working for you in your helpless infancy. Now, all of you who think they can do this, please raise your right hands."

Up went every hand except one.

Staring at the delinquent, the superintendent solemnly observed: "Why, young man, I am horrified—absolutely horrified—as well as astonished at your behavior. Don't you wish to raise your hand and put yourself on record as being willing to respect the grey hairs of your father when you grow up to be a man?"

"No; no use tryin'; can't do it, no how," unblushingly responded the lad.

"Why not, sonny?"

"'Cause he ain't liable to have no grey hair. Dad's bald," chirped the youthful philosopher triumphantly, and amid a general titter the discomfited superintendent gave it up and passed on to something else.

PUZZLES.

CONUNDRUM.

What letters of the alphabet represent words, and what words are they?

CHANGED WORDS.

Change hate to love.
Change year to week.
Change give to lend.
Change bus to cake.
Change only one letter at a time, thus: Shop, shot, soot, sort, most, mart.

DIAMOND.

A letter, an animal, a country, to rest, a letter. Centres give a country in trouble.

Answers to puzzles of July 17th.

DECAPITATIONS.

P—russia, F—lute, F—lea.
F—owl, F—lint.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. A pair of tongs.
2. One hoes his masters weeds, the other hoes his servants weeds.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

Seminole.

CHARADES.

1. Lead-pencil.
2. A-bandon.

MARKS.

S. J. Murphy, 4; G. Duff, 9; F. McCarthy, 8; J. E. Thomson, 11; T. Matthews.

The cousin Florence McCarthy who is answering the puzzles, and who

The Domain of Woman

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In the hot weather we want cooling drink, light refreshing foods and an absence of the heavy solids that form so much of our dietary during the winter. So also our mental palubum should consist of something light, sparkling and witty, a kind of spiritual effervescing draught. Who could read Plutarch's Lives or Macaulay's Essays on a broiling hot day beside the plashing of lake or sea or river? Anybody who would attempt it, no matter how firm the resolve to get to the bottom of the author's mind; no matter how gigantic their intellect, would find after a quarter of an hour that their brains were melting, their ideas resolving into original chaos, and their minds becoming flabby vessels, incapable of grasping the simple ideas of logical sequence.

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"Dear Teresa—Do you think 'Quo Vadis' a nice book to take away on my vacation?"

"My dear friend, seriously, I don't. It's a splendid book, a masterpiece of fine de sicle word painting, and has made more noise in the literary world than Ben Hur, but don't, if you value your peace of mind and content, don't read it in the hot weather. Its too ponderous, too terribly realistic, the burnings and the tortures and the calm brutality will make your flesh shudder, and your blood boil until you can almost fancy yourself a part of the stake. Goodness no! even to think of being burnt alive this weather is enough to make one melt."

Now I have got a nice cool story which I intend reading, plus lake, veranda and lemonade as soon as I've got them; I have read it before but that don't matter; its very title is like the cool breath of a refrigerator, or an ice wagon, it's as refreshing as an upset into the lake on a hot day when you don't expect it.

"What is it?"

Agonizing Pains

Endured by Those who Suffer from Sciatica—A Victim Tells How to Obtain Relief

Probably no trouble that afflicts mankind causes more intense agony than sciatica. Frequently the victim is utterly helpless, the least movement causing the most agonizing pains. Those who are suffering from this malady the following statement from Mr. John Hayes, of Hayesville, York Co., N. B., will point the road to relief and cure.

Mr. Hayes says:—"For upward of twenty years I have suffered from weakness and pain in the back. Some four years ago my trouble was intensified by Sciatica set in on my right leg. What I suffered seems almost beyond description. I employed three doctors but all to no purpose: I had to give up work entirely, and almost despaired of life. This continued for two years—years filled with misery. At this time I was advised to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and after using six boxes both the sciatica and the weakness in the back, which had troubled me so long, were gone. I was again a well man and feeling fifteen years younger than before I began the pills. Nearly two years have passed since I discontinued the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and in that time no symptom of the trouble has shown itself. Under God I thank Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for what they have done for me."

Mr. Hayes voluntarily testifies to the truth of the above statement before Edward Whosead, Esq., J. P. and his statement is further vouched for by Geo. J. N. Barnes, of Stanley, N. B.

A Sudden Session to the Ontario Legislature

The Ontario Legislature has been summoned to meet on 3rd August. This announcement was made officially on Wednesday and will create a sensation from one end of the province to the other.

The Premier has issued a memorandum in official form, setting forth the reasons why the House is called. They are briefly as follows:

The pending election petitions, which, in his opinion, would be stopped by the calling of the House during the time they might be in progress, and the necessity that every constituency should be represented when the Assembly is called together.

The question of the right of poll constables to vote, regarding which he gives an exhaustive resume of the law defending the right in this regard, citing the reference of the case to the courts and quoting precedents.

The third reason given is in connection with the Provincial control of fisheries. The memorandum says that an adjournment of the House will be asked, and that the session now called and the regular session in January will be considered as one session.

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The Domain of Woman

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FORENSIC.

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Toronto, March 16th, 1897.

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1 Kingston Travelling Agent, East

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1898.

Calendar for the Week.

July 21 - S. Henry, II, Emp.

22 - S. Mary Magdalen

23 - S. Apollonia, m.

24 - S. Alexius.

25 - S. James the Greater.

26 - S. Ann, Mother of B. V. M.

27 - S. Pantalon.

We learn from Ottawa that Mr. John Honey has called \$1,000 to Ireland for the relief of the famine sufferers in the west.

This sum Mr. Honey collected among his friends. A generous subscription from Peterborough, collected by another loyal-hearted Irishman, Mr. J. W. Fitzgerald, has also been forwarded.

The town of Donegal is overwhelmingly Catholic. An orange lodge has, however, been erected outside the town limits, and it is proposed that the place shall be opened with an Orange demonstration and procession. The following placard was posted in the town:

A GRAND DEMONSTRATION will be held in Donegal, on Tuesday, July 12th, 1898.

Who fears to speak of Derry, Anghrim and the Boyne.

PAINTS, STAND ASIDE. We conquered you before and can do so again.

OUR MOTTO STILL IS: DOWN WITH HOME RULE, HURRAH FOR KING WILLIAM, and to Hell with the Pope

Procession to be formed at New Orange Hall, and to parade the principal streets, after which a public meeting is to be held.

JOE SAVE THE QUEEN.

By Order

This placard has been the subject of a question in the House of Commons, where the Orange M. P. has denied its authorship. Mr. Balfour promised military to the town during the lodge opening on the 12th.

Mr. William Johnston, M. P., and the Orangemen of Belfast have passed a resolution thanking Sir William Harcourt, Liberal leader in the House of Commons, for his recent speeches on the Beneficial Bill. The same resolution disapproved of the course of the Conservatives. As the object of Sir William's wrath is the Established Church of England, it would appear that the Liberals are better Protestants than the Conservatives from the Orange standpoint. A Protestant political association has been formed in England which has adopted Sir William's phrase "no treachery" as its war cry. The best thing for the Belfast Orangemen to do is to make common cause with the English P.P.A. Together they might succeed in raising another William of Orange to come over and clear out the existing protectors of English Protestantism, because it is clear that the royal family and the Protestant aristocracy have fallen from their former stoke. A royal princess opens a Roman Catholic bazaar, and neither the English clergy nor the English aristocracy feel the least sympathy with the P.P.A.'s who, to quote their resolution passed at Liverpool on July 4, "view with regret and alarm the extensive developments of the Ritualistic and Romanish conspiracy in the Church of England."

The name of Sir William Harcourt might be suggested for the role of the new Prince of Orange; but of course it is a necessary condition that England's dynasties must be "made in Germany."

The cable brings the news that the Irish County Government Bill has been reported; but the intelligent cable correspondent has not considered it worth his while to say whether or not the measure has reached its present stage with or without the excluding provision directed against the Irish clergy. When last heard from the clause proposing the exclusion of clergymen remained intact, Mr. A. J. Balfour impudently explaining that the influence of the Catholic clergy in Ireland had been so great that it was considered necessary to disfranchise them in order to protect the Councils against their domination. Mr. Balfour's view has the cordial support of the Redmondite members of parliament but the great body of the Irish people are at one with the clergy, who, at the Maynooth Union, have unanimously protested against the deprivation of their civil rights. It will be interesting

to see the end of this matter. The loyalty of the Irish people to their clergy will be severely tried in the acceptance of this insulting clause. People living outside of Ireland may honestly believe that the priest is more in politics in Ireland than anywhere else in the world; but such a view is in reality mistaken. The Irish priest doubtless goes into politics as often as the English churchman or the Canadian Methodist preacher, and perhaps he makes quite as many mistakes. But until English ministers and priests are disfranchised there can be no logic in reserving the experiment for an exclusive trial in Ireland. It only shows that Englishmen have yet to learn the essential foolishness of treating Irishmen as men of different and inferior clay to themselves.

In this issue of THE REGISTER we give a lengthy summary of the speech delivered in the British House of Commons by Hon. E. A. and B. A. on the financial question, the one question upon which Irishmen of all shades and grades are united, landlord and tenant, Orangeman and Nationalist, Unionist and Home Ruler. Mr. Blake's speech has made a great impression. Since his entrance upon the stage of imperial politics the English press has been grudging of praise to the great Canadian Liberal, and although that grudging spirit is indicated in the following remarks from The Westminster Gazette, there is also a disposition at last shown to give credit where admiration can no longer be withheld. The Westminster Gazette of July 5 says "The Hon Edward Blake has been a member of the Imperial Parliament since 1892, and entered the House of Commons with a brilliant reputation as a Canadian statesman. He has on rare occasions intervened in debate, and his most notable performance hitherto has been his speech last year in stating Ireland's financial claims, which occupied two hours and ten minutes, and was heard without a single interruption, Mr. Blake receiving, on resuming his seat, from all quarters of the House an ovation which lasted several minutes. Last night, however, Mr. Blake made his first great debating speech in the House of Commons. He followed the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and analysed his arguments with great skill, proving himself a master of Irish financial statistics, and an adroit and dexterous opponent in controversy. The House of Commons to whom Mr. Blake appeared in a capacity in which he has been hitherto unknown in that Assembly—showed its admiration of his abilities by frequent applause, and in the Lobby, subsequently, some of the most generous tributes to his powers were most freely by his political opponents."

When Hon. William Mulock surprised the Canadian public by announcing that he had reduced the postage rate between Canada and the United Kingdom from 5c to 3c, it was seen that some one had blundered, and unkind things were consequently said of Mr. Mulock on all hands. But there is a great deal to admire in a man who, seeing his blunder, determines to make it straight by carrying it right through. That is how the famous Light Brigade achieved his immortality, and Mr. Mulock's conduct has been in the same spirit with regard to the postage rate to Great Britain and Ireland. According to the cable despatches of last week, a penny British stamp will presently take a half-cent stamp will carry the Canadian letter of like weight to England, Scotland or Ireland. Such is the decision of the inter-imperial postal conference at which Mr. Mulock attended to claim the vindication of his happy blunder. He is entitled to every credit for the tenacity of his purpose; and the only regret now remaining is that the penny rate has not been arranged on both sides. It has never been made clear why a three-cent stamp is needed on a Canadian letter for delivery in Canada or the United States, while a two-cent stamp is sufficient on an American letter for delivery in Canada. And now it will cost as much to send a letter to any Canadian address as to Great Britain. This unenviable condition of things is, of course, a legacy which Mr. Mulock has come by from his predecessors, but it is to be hoped he will apply himself to making the Canadian side of the matter smooth, level and on a line with the cheap rate prevailing in the United States.

A royal Duke may be a coarse insolent fellow; at least there have been many such. The English papers are at present discussing the personality of the Duke of Cambridge who is president of the London Hospital. In that capacity he attended the Press Bazaar at the Hotel Cecil on the opening day. His arrival was it appears the sensation of the day. The committee sold a vastly greater number of tickets than they expected they would do. This resulted in overcrowding the hall. Before the arrival of the Princess of Wales, a big crowd of ticket holders—ninety per cent of them ladies—were shut out in the quadrangle of the hotel. They were packed like sardines against the entrance door suffering greatly from the heat and pressure, and not least from the annoyance of having taken the trouble to come there only to be locked out. Suddenly a voice was heard shouting roughly at the back of the crowd, "Make way for the Duke of Cambridge." The crowd was powerless to make way, and the command was repeated in more peremptory tones, "Make way for the Duke of Cambridge." Without any further notice to this herd of defenceless and helpless women the two "gentlemen in waiting" plunged into the crowd as they would into a football scrimmage, pushed and elbowed the women, almost creating a panic, shouting to them all the time to "make way," and handled them so roughly that the ladies cried out "Shame, shame," at the violence of the attack. Veils were torn off, dresses trampled upon; one lady was almost beaten down, but still the "gentlemen in waiting" pressed on until they got to the head of the crowd, and were stopped by the barrier. There the commissioner was ordered to open the way. "I don't see the Duke of Cambridge," he said, not being able to believe that the roughs were attendants upon a member of the royal family, whereupon a hoarse, angry voice was heard from the back of the crowd, "Don't you? I'm here, damn you." Thus the Duke of Cambridge announced his royal presence in the ears of the panting, frightened crowd of women whom his attendant gentlemen had pounded so unmercifully. Their astonishment had scarcely subsided when the Duke again cried out to the commissioner, "I'll report you, I'll report you, if you don't let me in at once." The commissioner had now recognized the courtly Duke and p. sed him in. The Duke did not a word of apology to offer the ladies whom he had seen so shamefully used on his behalf.

The death certificate of Canadian public opinion has been supplied by the expulsion from the soil of the Dominion of the two Spaniards Messrs. Carranza and Du Busc. A momentary and weak protest from the very small section of the press that is entitled to be called independent was heard, but the great daily journals, all tied to the wheels of party, went on grinding out their old monotonous tunes and made no reference whatever to an incident that had occurred in any other British country in the world, would simply not have been tolerated. The man whose weak character, amounting to positive servility, is responsible for this act boasted only the other day that he had made Canada a nation. But Sir Wilfrid Laurier's idea of nationality is of a stripe with his conceptions of Liberal principles and good government. He has become the obedient tool of Mr. Chamberlain in a shameful transaction, just as he has be-

come the servant of the Canadian monopolists and corruptionists. When Canada gained the boon of responsible government it meant that the Governor General in Council was to exercise a reasonable independence of the Colonial Office in regard to matters touching the particular interests and sentiments of the Canadian people. Previously the Colonial Office governed Canada directly. Sir John Macdonald, Imperialist as he was, fully understood the duties to the Canadian people that responsible government imposed upon the Governor General in Council. When the late John Boyle O'Reilly was announced to deliver a series of lectures in Canada, and the Colonial Office said he must not, Sir John Macdonald did not wait for the matter to come to a head but hastened to declare the freedom of Canadian soil to every man who had not violated Canadian laws. He declared that if John Boyle O'Reilly did come to Canada he would have protection here, and in taking up that position he was deeply in earnest, nor did it affect the precedent he established that John Boyle O'Reilly, fearing an act of treachery by direct agents of the Colonial Office, did not come to Canada.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who apes the manners of old Sir John, is made of vastly different stuff on the inside. Mr. Chamberlain has only to hold up his finger and the Canadian premier repeats the history of a transaction that England ought to wish buried out of sight. Only a few years ago it will be remembered, on the eve of a presidential election, a private letter written by the British Ambassador at Washington was stolen and published. Next day the representative of Her Majesty received his passports and was kicked out of the republic. A howl of rage went up all over the British Empire; but the authors of the trick in the United States won the election. The two Spaniards who have been expelled from Canadian soil by Sir Wilfrid Laurier were also the victims of American thieves and spies. A letter written by one of them was stolen, and as a consequence of its publication Sir Wilfrid was ordered to expel freemen from Canada. There was no obligation or law compelling him to obey. As Canada is not a part of the American Union the Washington authorities could exercise no compulsory powers, and as Canada is in the enjoyment of responsible government Sir Wilfrid Laurier was not obliged to act upon the suggestion of a crawling colonial Secretary, who would drag the highest traditions of British liberty in the mud for the sake of promoting in the United States a species of condescending friendship towards England, and, of course, favor for himself. None of the parties to the transaction come out of it with any credit, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier least of all. The system of stealing private correspondence and making public use of the theft will not improve American reputation, no matter how long the practice be kept up. It will not do Mr. Chamberlain any good in the British Colonies to give the sanction of the Colonial Office to an arbitrary and un-British practice adopted from Russia and France by the Americans. It attaches to Sir Wilfrid Laurier a reputation for effeminacy, which we think he well deserves when he agrees with Mr. Chamberlain that Canada should become the back-stairs of the neighboring republic when the Americans feel like ordering people off this western continent. Two Spaniards ordered out of the United States crossed over into Canada, where they thought British liberty prevailed. They have been undecayed, they have discovered that American ideas completely over-ride British principles in this Dominion.

The worst feature of the whole business is the abject air with which Canadians themselves have taken the surrender of their rights by Sir Wilfrid Laurier. Verily the men of this northern zone could not have been asked to stand mute. They would, however, do well to sit down and ponder over it. Here they are, living beside the Americans, five millions to seventy, experiencing but little growth or expansion in a material sense, and all because, as they are proud to declare, of their attachment to British institutions. They envy not the ceaseless activity, the national prosperity of the republic, because British freedom is more honorable and British traditions more glorious than the blaring pagantry of the great cities of republics. While the tide of immigration to the new world from the old steadily seeks the new form of government, and shuns even the nominal figure of monarchy in this British colony, the average Canadian says to himself: Pass on you poor followers of an ignis fatuus, you are fascinated by the appearance of freedom, but here we know we have its substance and solidity. There is not one Canadian in ten thousand whose sentiment is not expressed in some such words as these. Even when the slower tide of life on this side of the border crowds and congests the small population we have here, and puts thousands upon thou-

sands of our young men over the bonny Jany Jany and into the swif' stream that rushes past on the south, we are in the habit of saying: It cannot always last, we must grin and bear it until, with the development of our mines and agricultural lands, we can provide for our natural increase in our own land instead of casting it upon the doorstep of Uncle Sam. In this way, although poor in population and correspondingly poor in material development, we have prided ourselves upon a national and traditional inheritance richer than any thing else the continent holds, and that will still be ours when the United States shall be overdone and the turn of our rich but neglected country shall have come. But while we have been waiting here we have been degenerating as well? That is the question which Sir Wilfrid Laurier's co-operation in making Canada the back stairs for the American chucker-out forces upon the attention of the slow thinking, vegetating Canadian. And as far as appearances go the Canadian has vegetated too long to be able to rise to the occasion now. His inheritance of freedom is a myth. It is subject to the foreign will of the United States. Canada has lost her proper share of settlers and investments, her development has consequently been retarded to such an extent that even her own sons and daughters cannot find a living on her soil. Her body has wasted like that of a fair young girl who mortifies herself for a spiritual ideal, but if we can speak of British institutions as the soul of Canada we are greatly afraid that our poor young Lady of the Snows cannot call even her soul her own. Sir Wilfrid has sold it, and Mr. Chamberlain has played the congenial role of Mephistopheles to our weakling knight's Faust.

Spain's especial concern for the future lies neither in the Far East nor in her western colonies. Her government and her people have a heavy score to settle among themselves at home. If the former expects to escape destruction it is only by applying to the situation the self same law that the United States has been relying on, the law of might. The Spanish government has not sufficient strength to stand up against an outside foe; but it may not be quite rotten enough to offer effectual resistance by the army to a deeply outraged people. Whatever evil in the Spanish state is responsible for the national weakness should be torn out by the roots. The popular outburst will come sooner or later. Just now the people are apathetic; but that will pass and no military despotism or royal cause can keep them from obeying the natural human impulse to arise from a condition of national degradation.

Mr. Evariantur Speaks

The Montreal Star publishes a special telegram from Vanhook Hill conveying an interview with Mr. Evariantur, M. P., in which that gentleman says he will be re-elected Speaker, and expects the portfolio of Public Works in the autumn. This is not unlike what Mr. Evariantur would say. During the late general election he sat on the fence and kept out of the fight, not being able to calculate exactly the winning chances of the party he had been allied to. It was stated in public prints that he had an understanding with Mr. Whitney. He did not deny it. But when the fight was done and Mr. Evariantur saw that the government had a bare majority, he became once more an enthusiastic Liberal, and displayed all the confidence of a man who knows his value. It did not then require a great deal of calculating to show him that the making or marring of a government majority in the next legislature might depend upon himself. Is the portfolio of Public Works his price? There is no man in Ontario so entirely unsophisticated as to suppose that Mr. Hardy would take him into his Cabinet because he wanted his services or liked his company there. It is our deliberate opinion that Mr. Hardy would keep Mr. Evariantur out by hook or crook, unless the latter could break in the door. And when Mr. Evariantur says he expects to be Minister of Public Works it is to be presumed that he has impressed the fact finally upon Mr. Hardy's consciousness that the door will come down if closed against him. But let Mr. Hardy be careful. The brandishing of Mr. Evariantur's club may break more things than the Cabinet door. It may break the narrow government majority, without waiting for the fixing up of the constables' problem. It is our firm opinion that it would.

The Late Mgr Lafleche.

There is genuine mourning in Quebec province over the death of Bishop Lafleche. It is the renewal of such sorrow as the recent loss of Cardinal Taschereau and Archbishop Fabre evoked. They were churchmen of the same school, differing only in those personal characteristics that must of necessity distinguish men of even the most identical training. They were noble types of the ancient religious stock of New France. Features such as theirs are now rarely seen. It is only in the line of long generations of educated, good-living God-fearing families that faces become stamped so conspicuously with the impress of gentleness and quiet strength. Some contemporary personages thought Mgr Lafleche a churchman of the Middle Ages, a saint and all that they admitted; but a little out of touch with the great modern forces. It is not well to take the estimate at its rough value. The world has not grown quite so crazy as some folks' notions of what the modern spirit stands for. Humanity in a few years has not altered out of all resemblance to the standard of the generation that is passing away; progress in social freedom, in education and in public spirit was not yet abandoned the old idea of honest work. Bishop Lafleche may have been a truer type of modern leader than his critics supposed. He never feared to proclaim purity in politics, religion in education and the active performance of good works in the daily lives of faithful Christians. He trimmed not his speech nor set aside when by word or example he could be up and doing. The Canadian episcopacy, perceived as it undoubtedly is of the spirit that dwelt in men like Taschereau, Fabre, Cleary and Lafleche, may face with confidence the future that awaits this great Dominion.

Troubled Spain.

If any mutual desire for the restoration of peace between the United States and Spain really exists, the present seems the first hopeful hour in the history of the war. The Spaniards have abandoned the city and province of Santiago de Cuba, and the conquered army of 20,000 or more starvelings will be transported in safety to a Spanish port by the Americans. General Shafter has thus closed the first creditable episode of the war on the American side, proving himself a humane statesman as well as a competent soldier. The surrender of Santiago must presently be followed by the capitulation of Havana. It would be an insane act, calculated only to arouse the indignation of the world, for the Spaniards to make a stand at Havana. Their defencelessness and general wretchedness have been amply disclosed at Santiago. It appears that Morro fortress was without guns or ammunition, and that the only show of defence against the American bombardment came from a few small guns landed from Cervera's ships and placed in earthworks on the shore below the purely ornamental defences on the high harbor cliff. The men in the fleet, the army in the city and the soldiers in the trenches who so gallantly met the land forces of the Americans, were all in the most deplorable state of unpreparedness for fighting. Humanity is saved one scene of humiliation at least by the termination of war between foes so unequal. And there is every reason to believe that the state of things in Havana is no improvement upon the misery of Santiago. However it is not the intention of the Americans just now to complete the conquest of Cuba. The war is being carried immediately into Porto Rico by General Miles; and this policy has but little of the appearance of making for peace. On the contrary it has all the appearance of hurrying on the conquest of territory before negotiations for peace can be officially set on foot. Spain will be luckier than she deserves if she can manage to hold any of her colonies after this war. It is impossible to suppose that the Americans have any intention whatever that she shall hold either Cuba or Porto Rico. The situation in the Philippines may be governed by circumstances so much in the control of European interests that Spain may have some chance of being ceded into a division of the spoils. No one knows much about what is transpiring at Manila. Admiral Dewey is still inactive, and his chief care seems to be that the rebels shall not advance their own particular game at the expense of the American policy. Meanwhile a native rebellion has broken out in Cuba, and should anything in that direction ensue in the Far East, the conflagration in the Far East would be the strongest power on the

A SIX WEEKS' TRIP

(WRITTEN FOR THE REGISTER.)

To travel three thousand miles by sea, to be detained three days by a fog, to travel another thousand miles by land, to alight for a moment at London, the world's great metropolis, to rest for a few hours in Paris, the gay the beautiful and yet the pious, to tarry for a day at Rome with all its pagan associations and all its loving memories and symbols of Christianity, to kneel and pray at a dozen or more of the world's most famous shrines, to attend to a certain amount of business and then to retrace the thousands of miles—to do all this, is seldom crowded into a life time, and yet it was done in little more than six weeks' by the pastor of St. Helen's church, Rev. Father Cruise left Toronto on May 19th and was back in time to celebrate Mass on July 14th. On the outward journey he was detained by a fog, the vessel moving so slowly and cautiously that many impatient passengers did not hesitate to grumble at the delay. With the ill-fated Bourgoigne in view these grumblers have probably now turned their complaints into laudations and thanks. One of the first spots visited was Westminster Abbey. Knowing this now only as the place in which England lays her honored dead, we seldom think of it in connection with its past Catholic history. In the first days of Christianity a small edifice, said to have been consecrated by St. Peter, was erected on the spot now occupied by the great minster or monastery. This gradually became the property of the Benedictines. In the time of Edward the Confessor this shrine rose into prominence in fulfillment of a vow made by the King. St. Peter was Edward's patron saint, and when, as a condition of his promise he set to work to restore a temple dedicated to the Prince of the Apostles, this hitherto somewhat insignificant shrine on the Thames was chosen. Fifteen years were occupied in erecting this magnificent monument, and five days after its consecration the saintly King breathed his last, and was given sepulchre under the noble pile he had himself erected. So great was the fame of his sanctity, that many were anxious to await the resurrection lying by his side, and in this way was sown the first seed in this the most renowned of "God's acres." The attraction here now however, for our traveller, was the spot in which rested Ireland's last and perhaps her greatest benefactor, William Ewart Gladstone. This was found in one of the side aisles, marked by a humble stone, bearing simply the name and date of death. Remembering also the olden promise that this minister should be the "gate of heaven and ladder of prayer, and that all who serve St. Peter there should be by him admitted into Paradise," Father Cruise knelt at the tomb of the Confessor, before continuing his journey. Then on to Canterbury. What a train of religious association and romantic episode is conjured up at the name! What a lengthy procession of Archbishops, of England's primates, walks out before us! Here we have St. Augustine, who brought the light of faith to England's shores; we have St. Alphege who was stoned to death and whose body was afterwards laid within the walls. Then comes the Norman Lanfranc, and next the gentle and learned Anselm, and Stephen Langton to whom we owe the Great Charter; and on, on, in an unbroken line, until we meet at last with Cardinal Pole, the ever steadfast friend of Mary Tudor. And then we think of Chaucer, who has left us his "Canterbury Tales," and who introduces us to that pilgrim in whose train is "a poor parson of a town," and we think that history repeats itself. And again we have a pilgrim ego who "Christo's love, and his apostles twelve" "He taughte but first he folwed it him-selfe."

tion was turned into a "Temple of Reason" and a dancer from the opera placed on its altar to be worshipped as a goddess. At the coming of Napoleon it was restored to its former glory, and everything placed on a most magnificent scale. In preparation for his coronation as Emperor of the French again during the revolution of 1871 it became the prey of the rabble, and within its walls the height of sacrilege was reached, when Archbishop Darboy fell, done to death at the hands of the mob. Another famous church visited was the Madeleine. This beautiful building with its mixture of Roman and Greek architecture, and bearing the name of Magdalene our great example of penance, is a faithful exposition of the prudence and wisdom of the church in retaining and adopting all that she finds beautiful in others, and of the glory given to her by the one truly pious man. It was not in Paris, however, that Father Cruise found his chief pleasure, but at Lourdes—the world famed Lourdes. And here he remained three days. Perhaps in no spot of the earth is the living faith of the people so visible as here. Round the beautiful image of her who proclaimed herself the Immaculate Conception, are gathered banners and flags from all nations and lands; and from them comes the sheen of silk and the gleam of gold, while in the sunlight diamond and emerald flash and the many hued drapings vie and mingle into one brilliant and sparkling background. Other emblems of petition or thanks are crucifixes, glasses, sticks, and even costly ornaments. In Ireland's "Lamp" consists of a burning, a perpetual memorial of some unknown but grateful child of Erin. The surrounding walls are covered with marble tablets commemorative of many cures. Here thousands come daily to be healed, and here daily, Mary dispenses her favors while the water, clear and sparkling bubbles up from its spring, the mark, like another rainbow of the covenant made with humanity through the child Bernadette. Three immense pilgrimages, one from Spain, another from Austria, and another from Belgium, reached here during the three day stay. From France to Italy, the land of poets and painters, was an easy transit, and Father Cruise occupied himself in either the one or the other of the chief centres of Italian Art. Here he stood in what the Milanese proudly claim as the eighth wonder of the world, that is, their great Cathedral or Church, dedicated "Marice Nascenti," or Church of the birth of Mary. Whether this means the earthly nativity or the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin is doubtful; but Father Cruise inclines to the latter. This beautiful and majestic temple is in size the third in existence, being surpassed only by St. Peter's in Rome and the Cathedral of Seville, and in no building in the world is displayed the same lavish expenditure and elaborate and ornate adornment as here. It is built of white marble and has a few hundred feet in length, while numerous towers and a "forest of turrets" adorn the roof. Thousands of statues are placed on the outside while within from ceiling to floor is displayed, or hidden away, the result of centuries of work and the outlay of millions of money. Here, it was the good fortune of Father Cruise to be present during the first vespers of Corpus Christi. For four hours the ceremonies lasted. Mattins, lauds, complin and vespers were all sung and Benediction given according to the Ambrosian rite. The Blessed Sacrament was exposed in an antique oratorium without rays, and the auxiliary bishop of Milan officiated. At the back of the altar was placed a large triangular pendant in red, and this color, here the color of the Blessed Sacrament, prevailed in all the appointments. The singing was done by a supplied choir of trained singers. During Benediction an immense procession was formed in which the congregation joined reciting the Rosary. Can we imagine the scene. The altar blazing with scarlet and gold and gleaming with myriad lights, its quaint and beautiful designs outlined by the luminous electric bulbs; the vaulted and ornate ceiling, the elaborately adorned walls, the mosaic floor, the lavish statuary, the broad aisles along which moves the stately procession, the white robes of the priests preceded by the all embracing cross, the hundreds in surplice and cope, the forty canons in scarlet cassock and cappa magna, each one seeming a very Cardinal, the venerable bishop carrying his Heavenly Guest under a magnificent canopy carried by twelve of the noblest gentlemen of Milan; the smoke rising from the swinging censers, the double chant of the "Ave Lingua" coming from the sweet throated singers, then the solemn silence and again the "Tantum Ergo," while "Kyrie Eleison" and "Sancta Maria, ora pro nobis," come at intervals from the hearts and lips of the moving throng, in one grand and harmonious cry of praise and adoration. If on earth a foretaste of heaven is ever given, surely it was given here.

Death of Mgr. Lafleche. THREE RIVERS, Que., July 14.— Bishop Lafleche died at 1.35 this afternoon. Mgr. Lafleche was taken ill on Sunday, July 8th. He had gone on his annual visit of the various parishes of his diocese, and had reached Three Rivers. He ascended the pulpit and spoke for over an hour in his usual eloquent strain. The effort was too great, and he had to be assisted from the pulpit. After resting for a couple of hours he had sufficiently recovered to proceed on his journey, and he left for St. Maurice on an open car. Unfortunately, he was caught in a severe rainstorm. He took to his bed and was shortly after removed to the hospital at Three Rivers and all that medical skill could do was brought into service. The night before last he took a turn for the worse and the last sacraments of the Holy Sacrament administered to him by Rev. Abbe Rheaute, Vicar-General of the diocese. Mgr. Louis Francois Lafleche, second Bishop of Three Rivers and Dean of the Canadian Episcopacy, was born at Ste. Anne de la Perade, on September 4, 1818, and was therefore almost eighty years of age. He was ordained to the priesthood at Quebec, January 7, 1844, and from April 15 of that year until July 1865, or for twelve years, he was a missionary in the North-West, in company with the late Mgr. Tahe. On his return from the missions he was appointed Superior of the Seminary of Nicolet, with the title of Vicar-General of the Diocese of Three Rivers, under the late Mgr. Tahe. The first Bishop of Three Rivers, he died on November 23, 1866, he was appointed Bishop of Antchedon, in partibus and coadjutor of the Bishop of Three Rivers, sum futura successione and was consecrated in the Cathedral of Three Rivers, on February 25, 1867, by the late Mgr. Baillargeon, Bishop of Ploa, and administrator of the Archdiocese of Quebec, assisted by the late Mgr. Lynch, then Bishop of Toronto, and the late Mgr. Larocque, Bishop of St. Hyacinthe. In 1885 the diocese of Three Rivers was divided in two parts, the territory lying on the south of the St. Lawrence becoming the present diocese of Nicolet, with Mgr. Gravel as its first Bishop. In 1845, one year after he had reached the Red River, on his missions, the late Mgr. Tahe, Archbishop of St. Boniface, who had just then been ordained and was in his 22nd year, was commissioned to join Mgr. Lafleche, who was then in his 27th year. For twelve years, Mgr. Lafleche and Mgr. Tahe carried on the mission work together in the immense solitudes of the then wild North-West, which they had reached from Montreal in canoes. Fort Gary was at that time a shabby fortress, and the only inhabitant of the country practically was the wild Indian. As soon as Mgr. Tahe reached Fort Gary he and Mgr. Lafleche set out for Isle a la Croix, a thousand miles away. The trials of the two missionaries were very great and this one they occupied two months. They instructed and baptized the Indians, though warned of the great dangers through the fierce and savage character of the then inhabitants of the prairies. After a long day's travel through the wilderness with no shelter through deep snow, or running behind a dog sled, with nothing to appease their hunger, but the unpalatable pemmican, they had to seek repose on the bare ground. A pamphlet published in 1895, on the occasion of the sacerdotal jubilee of the Bishop of Three Rivers, under the supervision of Rev. Canon L. S. Rheaute, Vicar-General, gives some interesting facts in connection with the late Mgr. Lafleche. The first of his assignments to come to this country was Pierre Robur in 1870. Lafleche, a town of some 10,000 inhabitants, on the River Loup, department of the Sarthe, was where he came from. This explains the origin of the name of Richer-Lafleche Among the Seigneurs of this ancient duchy were Geoffroy Plantagenet, who became Henry II. of England, Richard Oseur de Lion, and Jean Lackland. The town made great strides under Henry IV., when a Jesuit College with 1000 students was established there. In the Chapel of this college were deposited the hearts of Henry IV. and Marie de Medici, according to their own desire. The College became a military order after the expulsion of the Jesuits. From 1691 to 1697, while still under the control of the Jesuits, Francois Laval de Montmorency, the first bishop of Quebec, was a student. Rene Descartes was another student a few years before, and was also Mgr. de Pontbriand, sixth bishop of Quebec; Voism, a Chancellor of France; Marshal Cuebriand, Prince Eugene de Savoie, a grand nephew of Mazarin, Count Roban d'Azou, Grand Master of the Order of Malta; Seguin, Pasquier, two Valliard and Perquins, one of whom became Archbishop of Bordeaux, and the other Bishop of Autun, and finally Rev. Father O'Grady, who separates from France at the time of the Revolution, became Curé of Three Rivers from 1812 to 1819. Jerome le Royer de la Dauvergne, the founder of the Institut des Hospitales de Lafleche, which order established the Hotel Dieu in Montreal, also came from there. Mgr. Lafleche had visited the place on one of his trips to Rome.

The fiftieth anniversary of the ordination of Mgr. Lafleche occurred on January 7, 1868, but owing to the death of one of the canons, Mgr. Thomas Caron, the fetes were adjourned until May 22 and 23 and were celebrated with great eclat. On the first day, His Lordship was given receptions at the various educational and religious institutions of Three Rivers. On the second day His Lordship celebrated Pontifical mass amid much pomp and solemnity. Amid those present were Archbishops Fabre and Duhamel, Bishops de Gesbriand, Moreau, O'Jonnor, McDonald, Gravel, Larocque, Cardinal Taschereau, Archbishop Tahe, Archbishop Corrigan unable to attend, sent letters of commendation of Bishop Lafleche's career. Rev. Father Harwood, S. J., read the eulogium of a large number of addresses were presented and replied to. The event was the most memorable one of the kind in the history of Three Rivers. Mgr. Lafleche always took an active part in educational discussions, and on the eve of every general election it was customary for him to address a mandement to the faithful of his diocese. In May, 1895, he issued a mandement which caused a sensation throughout Canada. In the early seventies the action he took was largely instrumental in bringing about the appointment of the late Mgr. Conroy, Bishop of Ardeph, as Papal Ablegate.

The Bourgoigne Victim. It was with the most profound grief and sorrow that Rev. Barcelo, P. P. of Midland, learned of the disastrous results of the steamer Bourgoigne's trip to Europe. For he was keenly alive to the fact that among the passengers of that ill-fated vessel were his most estimable and beloved friends, and he realized to the depth of his affliction when we remember that with his powers of discernment he could not fail to appreciate to the full extent the extraordinary qualities which every one recognized and appreciated and which he had so often seen in his beloved one. In no more striking manner does the mind betray the noble and spiritual powers with which God has adorned the human soul than in its instinctive discernment and appreciation of virtues.

It is a great consolation for him who kindly heart goes out in an outpouring of affection to dear ones to perceive the deep impression which their courteous manners and especially their lives of constant virtue made upon him, who has been expressed in terms indicative of the highest praise and admiration. But what above all testifies to the depth and sincerity of their Christian fervor is their readiness to give up all that which God pleased to terminate their earthly existence. Their intention of entering a religious community the most severe that the Church in her wisdom approves of indicates that the conviction was not of a momentary great sacrifice had taken full possession of their minds. This voluntary sacrifice on their part and that in the midst of everything the world holds dear renders any human praise superfluous.

Though a great quantity of telegrams and letters, expressing the emotions of the most cordial and soothing nature, were sent with the same fervor, it is only the supernatural power of God working by His Divine Grace on the soul of His servants that will mitigate the pain of loss by resignation to His Holy Will.

Consignations among the letters of condolence received by Dr. Barcelo was one written by His Grace the Most Rev. John Walsh, D.D., Archbishop of Toronto. Though brief, upon reading it we are struck with the amount of great and penetrating nature of its sentiments indicating such a thorough knowledge of the human heart and of the requirements best calculated to soothe it. What must have been very difficult in writing the Rev. Pastor in his bereavement was the sympathy manifested in an admirable degree by his flock, who not only were present at the solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the souls of his sisters but also approached the altar with the same fervor and devotion for their eternal relief. Also the number of the Rev. Clergy, who to testify their sympathy and esteem for their afflicted brother contrived, many of them at much personal cost, to be present at the sacred office and by their talent to add to its beautiful solemnity.

The names of the priests who took part are: Rev. Arthur Barcelo, D.D., celebrant; Rev. Father Labrecque, Puncatungue, Masson, Rev. Father McEchtern, Flos, sub-deacon. Rev. Father Gagnon, Flos; Rev. Father Moyns, Orlina; Rev. Father Tracy, D. D., Toronto; Rev. Father Beaudoin, Le Fontaine. Rev. Father Gubious acted as master of ceremonies. The sermon was preached by Father Labrecque. He extolled in exhaustive language the rare qualities of the deceased and left the impression that the noble Christian sentiments which shone forth in such conspicuous manner was only the fruit of their true devoted lives. The Rev. Father referred in an impressive manner to the marvellous designs of God in dealing with the human soul, and especially to His inscrutable wisdom which He has decreed to call it to Himself.

The tasteful drapery of the sanctuary, the beauty of the ornaments amid the brilliancy of numerous lights together with the respectful and reverent manner created a scene not soon to be forgotten. Old Highbooks: "I refuse to take the picture. I won't give a cent for it." Artist: "What's the matter? It looks like your daughter, doesn't it?" Old Highbooks: "Of course it does. That's the reason I don't want it. Any fool of a photograph man could take a picture that looks like 'er. What did you think I want a paintin' for, anyway?"

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Domestic Reading. A dull remark shines in the shadow of a great man. Great actions are so often performed from little motives of vanity complacency, and the like, that I am more apt to think highly of the person whom I observe checking a reply to a petulant speech, or even submitting to the judgment of another in stirring the fire, than of one who gives away thousands.

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THE RE-UNITED A. O. H.

Magnificent Convention in Trenton, N.J.—First Day's Proceedings.

The first convention of the re-united Ancient Order of Hibernians was fully held in Trenton, N.J., the episcopal city of the Rt. Rev. J. P. McFaul, D.D., the good Bishop to whose tact and unwearied efforts the adjustment of the long-lasting differences between the American Board, A.O.H., and the Board of Erin, A.O.H., is due.

The strength of Irish blood in Trenton (says the Boston Pilot) was proved by the hearty welcome given to the delegates, and by the American and Irish flags on numbers of public buildings and private buildings.

As a distinctly Catholic organization, the A.O.H. preceded its deliberations with Solemn High Mass in the Cathedral. The celebrant of the Mass was the Rev. D. J. Duggan, Borden-town; deacon, the Rev. George Osborne; subdeacon, the Rev. William F. Dunphy; master of ceremonies, the Rev. John McCloskey. The Rt. Rev. Bishop McFaul occupied the episcopal throne, and the canons of honor were the Rev. E. S. Phillips and William J. McLaughlin.

The music of the Mass was by the full Cathedral choir of forty five voices, under the direction of Prof. G. W. Scholt.

The Rev. John H. Fox, preached. He said:

"I deem it a great honor to be invited by the commission to speak to you on this occasion, and to extend a welcome to you as the representatives of the great order of Hibernians. In the name of the Catholics of the city and Diocese of Trenton, in the name of the illustrious Bishop who has labored so hard and successfully for the uniting of your grand order, I welcome you all here to-day. There is another place than this for extending you a joint welcome on the part of the citizens of Trenton, irrespective of race or creed."

"Here in this Catholic I welcome you as Catholics, as Irish Catholics—sons of a race which, of all races, has over been faithful and loyal to the Catholic Church. The Catholic Church will always have a hearty welcome to offer all the members of your organization. Be true to the tradition of your Irish ancestors, true to this grand country of ours, true to the Holy Church and true to God."

"The object of your order and the principles that guide it should command the respect of all fair-minded men. It is an organization of men of Irish blood professing the Catholic faith, united together in the cause of country, Church and mutual aid, the principles that guide you are: Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity."

"Your order is composed of Irishmen, and what a wonderful history there is connected with that word 'Ireland'—a history of past glories and heavy sorrow."

"But your order is composed not simply of Irishmen, but Catholic Irishmen; and what race has been so Catholic as the Irish."

"During full three hundred years England tried to rob her of her faith by persecution and bloodshed; during those dark and dreary years thousands were put to death, thousands and thousands more died from famine, but Ireland never lost her faith, never wavered for a moment."

"As a Catholic priest, then, I welcome you here to-day, and I congratulate you on the very happy ending of the chasm that divided you; continue, then, to be united, for you know as well as I can tell you, that in union there is strength, in disunion there is weakness."

"To accomplish anything you must be united. This country of ours, this grand United States, by the fact of its unity, is enabled to wage successful war against Spain. Think you that this would be possible if there was a North and South?"

"At one time Ireland was divided, therefore she was conquered, but when it became a religious battle Ireland was united and England failed to conquer her, so Ireland today is as the ever was—Catholic and united. Catholic strength and power; God is omnipotent because he is essentially one; if he were not he would not be omnipotent. For eighteen hundred years and more the Catholic Church has been compelled to fight for her very existence. There has been not a power which at some time or other has not assailed the Catholic Church, but she has conquered every enemy and stands to-day strong, glorious and victorious, the wonder of the whole world."

"I tell you it is in her unity she is strong; she is unconquerable because she is one—one in faith, one in obedience to authority, and one in devotion to her principles. How wonderful is the unity of the Catholic Church? where can you find anything like it? Turn over the pages of history where can you find anything like it? The Church is the society, the principles of over 250,000,000 made up of the people of every race, people of every shade of color, differing from one another in customs, in habits, and in opposition to each other in warfare, as the case now between Catholics and the United States and those of our race; but nevertheless all Catholics are one in faith, one in obedience to authority. So united in faith are

these hundreds of millions of Catholics that if you should ask of the faith of one of them you would thereby receive an answer that would apply to every one of the entire number.

"She is also one in her form of worship throughout the entire world; one in government; the parish is subject to its pastor, the pastor to his Bishop and the Bishop to the Supreme Head in Rome. The Unity of the Catholic Church was manifested to the world in a wonderful way on the occasion of the calling of the Council of the Vatican. Eight hundred Bishops and Archbishops from all quarters of the globe, assembled there, a most striking example of the unity of the Catholic Church."

"Labor, then, gentlemen, for this unity that is so essential to the welfare of your order, and look with suspicion on the man who would favor disunion."

"The support of God and the Church will be with you, and your order will grow in faith as will your influence with your fellowmen."

"The business sessions were held in Taylor Opera House. At the one which followed the Mass, the Rt. Rev. Bishop McFaul delivered a brief and enthusiastically received address, in the course of which he said:

"This enthusiastic greeting renders it impossible to restrain the feelings awakened in my breast by the sight of this convention, composed of delegates from all parts of the United States and Canada, for the purpose of lastingly cementing the union so happily accomplished during this memorable year of '98."

"As a man whose pride is to have first seen the light of day beneath the genial sky of the ever-faithful isle, as the chief pastor of the Diocese of Trenton, as Bishop of the Catholic Church, I bid you a thousand welcome and pray God to bless your deliberations. Questions momentous to the integrity, the progress, the prosperity of your noble order—questions whose significance and importance are far-reaching, not limited merely to the interests of your own organization, but co-extensive with the welfare of the Irish race—will engage your attention."

"Wherever an Irishman, yea, wherever there dwells a heart in which pulsates the spirit of the nation, and which is vested by the sun in his majestic course around the world, does not cherish the sons and daughters of Erin? the principles of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity here proclaimed by a reunited Ancient Order of Hibernians will meet a generous welcome and encourage the undivided Gael to unite for securing the strength and the influence which, joined to that indomitable courage which has never deserted us during long ages of oppression and tyranny, will place dear old Ireland forever in possession of her long-sought liberty."

"Let, therefore, these deliberations be conducted in the spirit of your great fundamental principles, 'Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity'; let all personal ambition, old jealousies and contentions be cast aside, and this will be the grandest convention known in the history of your organization and productive of most important results to the Irish race throughout the world."

"His Honor Mayor Welling G. Sichel then extended to the Ancient Order of Hibernians the freedom of the city."

"I feel, as mayor of the city of Trenton, that you have paid us a great compliment by holding your convention in our city," said Mayor Sichel.

"On the very ground on which this building is erected was fought one of the decisive battles of the Revolutionary War; the war that brought about the independence of this glorious country and caused the Stars and Stripes, which mean 'liberty, prosperity, peace and good will to all men,' to float over our land."

"I had the pleasure, a short time ago, of visiting the country where no doubt many of you were born—Ireland. Many times did I wish for a happy reunion of her hills."

"I congratulate you upon having united and come together as one great body, for, as you know, 'in union there is strength.'"

"I feel that Bishop McFaul, as arbitrator, has performed an important and manly duty in bringing you together, and I sincerely hope that the deliberations of your body, during your session here, will prove a benefit to your order, as all beneficial orders are a benefit to mankind."

"While you are in this city we want to make you comfortable and extend to you true Irish hospitality."

"I want to say, on behalf of the citizens' committee, that every member stands ready to do anything in his power to help you and make your visit pleasant while you are here."

Bishop McFaul commended their work in bringing about the reunion.

"Fourteen years ago," said Father Phillips, "relying on ourselves and listening, perhaps, to unwise counsel, we began to wage a suicidal war on each other, and thus belied the principles taught to us in our motto of 'Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.' Passion, selfishness urged us on until at last our fraternal contentions became a snarl in the nostrils of honest men, who hated a Hibernianism that was a divided Catholicism. But now, however, by the grace of the good God, who loves holy old Ireland, we are united together in one loving body, one full of charity for each other. We have been brought together by the patience and brilliant efforts of a grand chorism, whose high ecclesiastical honors, whose civil and social surroundings never caused aim, and I say of him, never will cause him to lose his love for the fair land of his birth dear to the children of St. Patrick, the patron of our order."

"My Lord, we thank you, and to the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, for all time, we will leave as a sacred heritage the name of James A. McFaul."

"At the close of the address Bishop McFaul, as the presiding officer of the temporary organization, announced the other temporary officers: James O'Sullivan, of Philadelphia, national secretary of the American Branch; Edward R. Hayes, of New Brunswick, national secretary of the Board of Erin wing, and John P. Bullard, of Trenton, were named as the temporary secretaries. N. J. O'Brien, of Indiana; Charles J. O'Neil, of New Hampshire, representing the American Branch; James J. Carroll, of New York; C. P. Boland, of Pennsylvania, representing the Board of Erin, were named as the committee on credentials."

In the evening Bishop McFaul and the officers of the A. O. H. held a public reception in the Opera House.

At the morning session this cablegram was read from John Dillon, chairman of the Irish Parliamentary Party:

"President A.O.H., Trenton, N.J.—I heartily congratulate the members of your great organization on their reunion. They have set an example to the Irish race which will, I trust, be followed, and they have added one more to the many great services rendered by them to the Irish cause."

Telegrams were read from Bishop Foley, of Detroit, the national chaplain of the American Board; Mgr. Conaty, of the Catholic University, Washington, D.C., and other men prominent among the clergy and laity of Irish blood.

Bishop McFaul presided over the day's meetings. At the afternoon session, after the Bishop had read the terms agreed upon as the basis of the reunion of both wings, he announced that the next business in order was the election of officers to serve until the regular election of officers at the close of the session. The Rev. E. S. Phillips, who was at the head of the Board of Erin, nominated P. J. O'Connor, of Savannah, Ga., who was the head officer of the other wing when the reunion took place. Mr. O'Connor was selected by acclamation.

A letter was read from Bishop Foley, of Detroit, in which he expressed his pleasure at the reunion of the order, and returned a check for over \$219, the sum received in excess of the \$50,000 promised by the order to fund a Celtic chair at the Catholic University at Washington, D.C.

The reports of the officers followed. That of the Rev. E. S. Phillips, of the Board of Erin, was confined to explaining the cause of the reunion of the order, which, he said, was to set an example to Irishmen in all parts of the world, and to commemorate the one hundred and anniversary of the fight for Ireland's freedom.

Mr. O'Connor, in his report, spoke of the attention the ladies' auxiliary should receive, and the amount of good it has done for years. The famine in the western part of Ireland and the need of immediate action by the Ancient Order of Hibernians to relieve the same, and the war between Spain and United States, were dealt with.

National Secretaries O'Sullivan and Hayes and Treasurer Dundon followed. Secretary O'Sullivan reported that the American branch had 1,491 subordinate bodies and 98 military companies, with 90,967 members, located in all the States and Territories, except Wyoming, and in New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island. The laborers' benefits were \$17,064.52; for charitable and other purposes, \$412,018; balance in the treasuries of subordinate lodges \$648,525.19.

The ladies' auxiliary has 208 divisions and 18,915 members. It has paid out \$11,087.88 in sick and funeral benefits and \$19,143.81 for charitable and other purposes, and has a balance of \$38,616.04.

Secretary Edward R. Hayes reported that the Board of Erin had about 5,000 members.

THIRD DAY, THE PARADE. The great event of June 29, was the parade in which about 2,000 men and a score of bands participated. At the Bishop's residence, it was reviewed by the Bishop, the Mayor, the officers of the two former wings of the A.O.H., and the citizens' committee.

It was one of the greatest demonstrations ever held in Trenton. Fully 20,000 people attended the sports which followed it in the afternoon in Newton Park.

FOURTH DAY. Mr. John O. Weedon, chairman of the committee on constitution, presented the draft of a constitution, which had been approved by the Rt. Rev. Bishop McFaul, and a few minor changes it was unanimously adopted. The constitution makes very few changes from the one under which what was known as the American branch of the order worked.

A new ritual for the order, prepared by Bishop McFaul, was adopted. It differs in no very essential points from the old ritual, but it has been shortened and simplified. The morning session was almost entirely consumed with the report of the committee on insurance. The committee reported against the adoption of a national plan of insurance and thought the matter of insurance should be made optional with county organizations.

Under the present system the matter of insurance is left to the various county boards or individual divisions to regulate as they see fit. The Southern and many of the Western delegates voted this changed, so that a national plan of wider scope might be substituted. It was represented by Southern and Western delegates that the order in these sections of the country was languishing for the want of a good insurance feature that would attract recruits and that men who might be secured as members were joining other organizations whose insurance features were more permanent. It was also pointed out that in Massachusetts, Wisconsin and Michigan the A.O.H. paid death claims of \$1,000 each and the excess of members, and at each death the respective reserve funds were added to by assessments to the extent of \$400.

The opponents of a change in the rules met this contention with the statement that a similar plan was tried in Ohio with disastrous results, and nearly resulted in breaking up this order.

The resolution in favor of a national plan was tabled, which kills it till the next convention.

The election of officers took up a good part of the closing session. There were only two candidates for the office of president, John O. Weedon, of Michigan, refusing to allow his name to be presented, and P. J. O'Connor, of Georgia, withdrawing his name. The fight was between former State President E. J. Slattery, of Massachusetts, and John B. Keating, of Illinois, and resulted in the election of the latter, the vote standing 167 to 114. Mr. Keating, the new president, is a prominent Chicagoan, being treasurer of the State Board of that city. His State president of the A.O.H. of Illinois, James E. Dolan, of Syracuse, N. Y., was unanimously elected vice-president of the organization, and James O'Sullivan, of Pennsylvania, was elected secretary over James P. Bell, of Hartford, Conn.

There were three candidates for treasurer—P. T. Moran, of Washington, D. C.; D. Maber, of Iowa, and Daniel Lynch, of Michigan. Mr. Moran was elected, receiving 178 out of the 232 votes cast.

To the board of directors, P. J. O'Connor, of Savannah, Ga.; P. A. O'Neill, of Philadelphia; E. J. Slattery, of Massachusetts, and M. J. Burns, of Indiana, were elected. Mr. John J. Clancy, of this city, was placed in nomination for a place in the directorate, and, despite the fact that no end of combinations had been made by the parties who were elected, Mr. Clancy came within a few votes of landing. He has a very large number of friends in the order.

The newly-elected officers were at once installed by Bishop McFaul, and short speeches of thanks were made by many of them.

The next national convention will be held in Boston in 1900.

Mr. President and Honorable Delegates—With pleasure do I rise at the close of this magnificent convention to express my admiration at the efficiency with which it has been conducted, both on the part of its officers and assembled delegates. I am gratified beyond expression to find that Irishmen and the sons of Irishmen in America have made such rapid strides in intelligence, parliamentary ability, and eloquence within this generation. Ireland has always stood prominent in forensic eloquence, and I rejoice that these grand gifts have come across the sea and are making their influence felt in this greater Ireland, over which she floats the flag of the free.

"Allow me to say that I am proud of the intelligence, virtue and courage of the men sent from their respective States to cement this grand old order firmly together, and to declare to the world that 'What God has joined together let no man put asunder.'"

"Let me here repeat what I said at the beginning of this convention: 'Stand together under your noble leaders for faith and fatherland, and you will be felt at home and abroad and the star of Irish freedom cannot set.'"

THE RESOLUTIONS. The committee on resolutions reported in due season. The preamble outlined the following:

"To the Rt. Rev. James A. McFaul, Bishop of Trenton, for his arduous

labors as arbitrator, temporary chairman of our convention, and for his many, many acts of kindness to our officers, and to the delegates, we tender sincere and heartfelt thanks. The A.O.H. and the Irish race will be forever under the deepest obligations to him for bringing together and forever cementing all Hibernians under one banner for friendship, unity and Christian charity."

"To His Honor, Mayor Sichel, of Trenton, to the reverend clergy, to the press and people of this old historic city, and the citizens' committee for their untiring acts of kindness, generous hospitable treatment we entertain feelings of the kindest regard, and carry with us recollections of a most affectionate nature."

A resolution against the proposed alliance with Great Britain was adopted and the widest applause. The resolution read:

"Whereas, America's ancient and persistent enemy, England, now smugly friendly, seeks an offensive and defensive alliance with this, the greatest and best republic the world has ever known;

"And, whereas, we believe that the ends for which a wise Providence seems to have destined this great nation can best be attained by cultivating and cherishing the friendship of all peoples by the justice of her conduct and the equity of her politics, while still maintaining a lofty isolation, 'America for Americans';

"And, whereas, such alliance would we believe, so retard American progress that should England offer as a further inducement the complete independence of beloved Ireland, yet cherishing Columbia's welfare closest to our hearts, we believe the sacrifice on our part too great to be made; now, therefore be it

"Resolved, that we, the Ancient Order of Hibernians of America, in national convention assembled at Trenton, N. J., in 1898, as American citizens, prompted by our loyalty and devotion to this country and our faith in its greatness, earnestly condemn said proposed alliance with this oppressor of weak people, and protest against alliance with any and all foreign powers,

"Resolved, further, that copies of these resolutions be forwarded to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives."

Another resolution, which was adopted, resolves; "that the Ancient Order of Hibernians of America, through its delegates in national convention assembled, pledge to the Government of the United States the lives, fortunes, and sacred honor of its members, to the end that the Government of the United States may be successful in its war with the Government of Spain."

Little Cuba was not forgotten, as one of the resolutions read: "We extend our earnest sympathy to the Cuban patriots in their glorious struggle for independence, a struggle which gives new courage to our people, new hope for Ireland's future. We trust that victorious peace, aided by the efforts of our great nation, will soon bring the Queen of the Antilles the happiness of freedom and the assurance of a prosperous future."

In order that Hibernians who go to the front in the struggle with Spain may be known to future generations, the following was adopted:

"Members of the A.O.H., actuated by an abiding love for American institutions, as well as by the most unselfish patriotism, have responded to the call of the President of the United States for volunteers to serve in the war for humanity, now being waged on land and sea against Spain, and it is important that record of such members be preserved."

"Resolved, that such division of the order shall forward to the national secretary a record of the name, age, description and birth-place of each member of such division who has enlisted, or who may hereafter enlist, in the Army and Navy of the United States, as well as the date of such enlistment, that the national secretary shall enter the same in a book to be called the military and naval roll of honor of the A.O.H., that each division secretary shall keep the national secretary informed of the number of engagements participated in by its enlisted members, that all promotions, deeds of bravery and meritorious conduct shall also be noted; and record to be completed when the member is mustered out at the close of the war, if not sooner mustered out in action in defense of our country and its flag."

Another resolution recommended that the order in each State where the same exists shall select some date in each year to be styled "Hibernian Memorial Day," that on such day the members of the order will attend appropriate religious services, praying for the repose of our loved dead, and then proceed, clothed in proper regalia, to the cemeteries in their locality, to decorate the graves of their deceased brethren."

The convention adopted a resolution which provided that "We tender our loving reverence to His Holiness Leo XIII., whose love and distinguished incumbency of the Chair of Peter, has been marked by a lofty interpretation of the relations between Church and people, and who has over expressed a noble interest in the cause of suffering humanity."

The following recommendations were also adopted:

"We view with horror the awful sufferings of the peasantry in the west and southwest of Ireland.

"We denounce the heartless barbarity of the hypocritical government which closes its eyes to the terrible spectacle of thousands of its subjects starving within the reach of plenty. We extend our deep sympathy to our unhappy brethren who are reduced to such a state of destitution."

"We recommend that the national officers issue at once a circular to every division of the order, asking that all such as have been already described, donate as liberally as circumstances permit toward the relief of the sufferers in Ireland. All subscriptions to be forwarded to the national secretary."

"We also recommend that the sum of \$1,000 be donated from the national treasury for the same good purpose."

"We further recommend that the last mentioned sum be forwarded at once, and all others as quickly as possible, through such channels as the national officers may select."

Other resolutions were adopted calling upon the race throughout the world to join hands; demanding the discontinuance of histories in the public schools, which histories contain any alleged historical facts which may have children against any section, race or creed; urging the teaching of Irish history in our schools; protesting against the continued incarceration of the Irish political prisoners; recommending the cultivation of Irish music and literature; endorsing the work done by the '98 Centenary committee of Ireland, Great Britain and France.

THE LADIES' AUXILIARY AT THE CONVENTION. Delegates from the Ladies' Auxiliary of the A.O.H., in America, met at Trenton, N. J., during the past week to further the interests of their Order. The following States were represented: Ohio, Kansas, Montana, Pennsylvania, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Michigan, Wisconsin, West Virginia and New Jersey. The delegates attended Mass Monday morning. In the afternoon they were invited to be present at the opening exercises of the convention at the Opera House, the Rt. Rev. Bishop McFaul delivering an address, as did P. J. O'Connor, national president of the A. O. H., Rev. E. S. Phillips, N. P., of the Board of Erin, and Mayor Sichel, who welcomed our attending delegates.

In the evening the delegates attended a reception, and all had the honor and pleasure of meeting Bishop McFaul and the national delegates.

The sisters held meetings each day during the week, and made amendments to their constitution and ritual. Mrs. Mary McLaughlin was chairman of committee and constitution, and Miss Jennie O'Hara, of Parkersburg, W. Virginia, and Katherine E. Sheridan, of Randolph, Mass., secretaries of the same. Chairman of Committee on Ritual, Mrs. Marie Harvey, of Philadelphia, Pa.; Mrs. Hannah M. Lewis, of Grand Rapids, Mich., secretary. The Bishop advised the auxiliary to establish their own national board. Our condition as he expressed it, being incomplete, saying to us, "You are a body with somebody else's head on your shoulders." The committee on resolutions were appointed as follows: Mrs. Hannah M. Lewis, of Michigan, chairman; Katherine E. Sheridan, of Massachusetts, secretary; Miss Anna Farrell, of Kansas; Mrs. Kathryn Flood, of Pennsylvania; Mrs. Eleanor McCann, of Connecticut; Miss Jennie O'Hara, of W. Virginia, and Mrs. Katie Norris, of Montana.

The submitted the following:

Resolved—Whereas, we the women representing the Ladies' Auxiliary of America being assembled here to further the interests of our noble order.

Resolve, that we tender our thanks to the Rt. Rev. Bishop McFaul for the zeal he has displayed in our behalf and we trust it will be an impetus to encourage us in the good work; also to P. J. O'Connor and James E. O'Sullivan, for the prompt and courteous manner in which they discharged their duties pertaining to the Ladies' Auxiliary; and to the A. O. H. of America to which society we are proud to be an auxiliary.

Resolve, that we extend to the sisters and brothers and citizens of Trenton and to Mayor Sichel and Mr. Katzenbach a vote of thanks for the hospitable manner in which we were entertained.

Resolve, that we call upon the President and Congress of United States of America to show themselves worthy descendants of American ancestry in denouncing the Anglo-American alliance, and we call upon the American Celt to vindicate the honor of our race, and to show the world that the Irish race down-trodden by England can be a mighty factor in preserving the country in its present crisis as it ever has been in the past.

Among the State presidents were Mrs. Harvey, of Pennsylvania; Miss Dolis A. Sullivan, of Massachusetts; Mrs. Bernard Ward, of West Virginia; Miss Mary O'Halloran, of Michigan; Mrs. E. McCann, of Connecticut; Miss Farrell, of Kansas; Mrs. Morris, of Montana; Mrs. Hoar, of New Jersey; Mrs. Leahy, of Wisconsin; the State secretaries, Miss Katherine E. Sheridan, of Massachusetts, and Miss O'Hara, of West Virginia.

KATHERINE E. SHERIDAN.

Hon. Edward Blake on Irish Financial Grievances.

Below will be found a report taken from The Dublin Freeman's Journal of the speech of Hon. Edward Blake in the House of Commons on July 4th on the Irish financial grievance. This address has been praised in the English press as one of the ablest criticisms ever heard in Westminster.

The Hon. Edward Blake said the statement just made by the right hon. gentleman (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) was that there was no case for further inquiry, although the right hon. gentleman had given two different and inconsistent reasons for not having such an inquiry. The position taken up by the Government was that further inquiry was essential in order that a just conclusion might be arrived at. There was an admission for the purposes of the debate last session that there was at all events a prima facie case which required further investigation, but not a case such as the Chancellor of the Exchequer now suggested, a case demonstrable on the materials before Parliament to be one that did not need any further inquiry at all. Speaking in the House of Lords last year, three weeks before the debate took place in the House of Commons, Lord Lansdowne, a member of the Government, admitted that "to deny Ireland the position of a separate entity was to fly in the face of facts," a view which indicated opinions quite divergent from those to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer had given expression on the present occasion. The attitude taken by the First Lord of the Treasury during the debate on the Address was that the Royal Commission had been guilty of sins of omission, that they had refused to investigate facts which they should have investigated, and that it was impossible to form a judgment without further investigation. The right hon. gentleman (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) now said they did not proceed with the second Commission, because they thought it well to postpone it till Parliament expressed its opinion on the giving of the agricultural grant to Ireland, and a little later he said they did not proceed with it on account of the refusal of the hon. members that side of the house to support it. Which was the real reason? Was it both or was it neither? In his opinion the non-appointment of the second Commission was due to neither of the reasons given by the right hon. gentleman; it was because he had decided that the time had arrived when the right hon. gentleman thought he could take his stand on the grounds which they (the Irish members) believed really underlay the terms of reference to that Commission. (Nationalist cheer.) The right hon. gentleman had said that the mover and seconder of that motion differed in some of their opinions on the subject. They were discussing this question not as a party question. He thought perhaps a greater latitude for variation of opinion might be permitted on this great question than seemed to be permitted in political organizations, ordinarily supposed to be bound by a common policy. For gentlemen who remain in solemn ignorance of the attitude of their colleagues and so declare themselves to the House—for a right hon. gentleman who occupies that position with reference to the solidarity of the Administration to complain that there was not entire agreement on this point seemed to him (Mr. Blake) a little far fetched. (Irish cheers.) The right hon. gentleman suggested that the Royal Commission gave no answer on important elements of the investigation; but he himself answered his complaint. The work of the Commission in respect of those matters which deal with the present condition of affairs was none the less valuable because at the time it was necessary to ask it to do something more, a necessity which had disappeared at the time of the publication of the report. It was necessary for the purpose for which that Commission was appointed to enter into an investigation of what the proper contribution of Ireland should be towards the expenditure of the United Kingdom under a Home Rule system, because a Home Rule system was in contemplation, but when the Commission reported a Unionist Government with a majority of 160 was in power, and they reported with reference to a state of things upon which the right hon. gentleman wanted to act now, and which the right hon. gentleman hoped might be perpetual, namely, the continuance of the Union; and the great majority of the Commissioners found that, except for the purposes of a Home Rule system, it was not necessary, not even proper, to enter into these questions of contribution, and for that reason they did not enter into them. The supporters of the motion before the House contended that the right hon. gentleman's contention was an entire distortion of the condition of things contemplated by the Union. It was the avowed policy of the Union that the Union that Ireland should be secure against the possibility of the suggestion that she was to bear taxation at the same

rate as the richer country. They might talk of theories of common taxation. Were those theories suggested as theories to be acted on in 1817 or for many years afterwards? Was it out of pure generosity that Ireland was still left untouched by many taxes which were imposed in England? Was it generosity or was it the solemn covenant that had been entered into with Ireland? According to the argument of the right hon. gentleman the Chancellor of the Exchequer the next thing that should be done would be to abolish the exemptions which now existed and to impose these taxes also on Ireland. What is the result, first of indirect taxation, as to which the real grievance exists? It is this, that it has now been doubled in Ireland, while the indirect taxation of this country has been halved. Direct taxation is the taxation of wealth, the taxation of those who have some margin to live upon. On the other hand, indirect taxation upon consumption is in the main taxation of those who have comparatively little, who are not owners of realised wealth to any appreciable extent, and who to a very large extent are the very poorest of the poor. The right hon. gentleman said that the individual poor man and the individual rich man were liable to the same taxation there was no unfairness and no difficulty except on the part of the Minister who had to give the Saxon Treasury. That is the idea. It is to the Saxon Minister who has to guard the Saxon Treasury, administered by the Saxon, to whom the inconvenience occurs when these questions arise. The right hon. gentleman said that a common system which was not necessarily perfect as between individuals might become fair in the concrete. I deny that (Irish cheer). I deny that a system which is not perfect and is grossly unfair as between individuals can become fair in the concrete. It is not necessary at all to enter into the dispute whether Ireland has absolutely gone forward or gone backward, whether she is richer or poorer than she was. Considered relatively with this country her condition is one of retrogressions. Year after year this country becomes sicker relatively to the condition of Ireland, and the result is that while this country is able, without hardly feeling it, to pay its share of the common taxation, the Irish share of the common taxation absorbs an enormous and damaging and fatal proportion of its small surplus. The right hon. gentleman made a statement of which the great majority of those who listened to him the other day had every reason to be proud, when he told us of the increasing spread of wealth and prosperity, of the better wages, of the greater spending capacity of the people, of the greater power of paying taxes. He told us that every man who wanted work in this country could get it if he would take it and at good wages, but I was reminded when I heard his speech of something which he had said the year before with reference to the impossibility of men on different sides of St. George's channel understanding one another. In his Budget speech he did not think it worth while to indicate by a single sentence or by any phrase that this Island beyond St. George's Channel had no lot or part in that prosperity. During the very time debates were going on every day with reference to the acute distress existing in the country, and suggestions were made of relief works, and slow and parsimonious arrangements were made to prevent deaths by famine and starvation, and the rate of wages on the relief works from 3s to 6s a week according to the membership of the family was defended on the ground that the ordinary rate of wages in the localities was not much higher. All this shows how impossible it is as the right hon. gentleman said last year, to understand one another and this is an argument for some change in the existing state of things by which we would be enabled in our country to attend to our local affairs (Nationalist cheer). With regard to free trade, it is impossible, I think, seriously to argue that free trade could have had the same relative advantages for Ireland that it had for this country. Whether Ireland has profited or not by free trade, it is plain and palpable that the lion's share of the advantage of the free trade policy has fallen to England, and that a very small share, if any share at all, has fallen to Ireland. The right hon. gentleman boasted of the reduction of the tobacco tax. If you could carry that system further you would go on redressing the Irish grievances palpably. I am speaking of course on the assumption that the reduction of taxation will result in a reduction of the price of tobacco; but even if that result followed it would be only a fleabite. The right honorable gentleman wanted a new Commission and judges to interpret the meaning of the words of the Act of Union, and then they were to be asked to say how Lord Castlereagh and Mr. Pitt would interpret the Act of Union if they had lived to day and had to deal with the circumstances of to-day. These would be nice questions to put to the judges. These are questions which we have to

deal with in this Parliament, not upon conjecture, but upon the application of the principles of fairness, equity, justice and common sense. We have got to deal with it upon the assumption which the right hon. gentleman would make that the security which the framers of the Union contemplated was a security for the weaker country against the injustice that might result to her from the application of indiscriminate taxation. The question was to be dealt with, not without reference to the changed circumstances of to-day. The argument that you cannot remedy the existing grievances in the manner contemplated by the Act of Union does not relieve you from the duty of remedying the grievances in some other way. (Irish cheer.) The plea that it is to the convenience of the common system should remain has been taken as a reason for doing nothing at all. I say that view is unworthy of this Parliament and the kingdom. (Irish cheers.) The suggestion that the specific remedy of the Act of Union can no longer be applied should be coupled with the free and frank acknowledgment that some other method of discharging the obligation should be found. (Irish cheer.) The right hon. gentleman has suggested that there is really nothing oppressive. Now, I deny that statement. Considering the poverty of Ireland, where half a million, not in the congested districts, are nearly if not quite in the same distressful circumstances, I say that the taxation imposed is too heavy. (Irish cheer.) Continuing, Mr. Blake said—it seems to me that the suggestion which I have referred to, made by the right hon. gentleman, is to be discarded. If you cannot give us exemptions and abatements because of your policy, if you interpose a non possumus, then you are bound to propose some other remedy or some other method of dealing with this question. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman says we are absurd when we ask for common expenditure under the compact of Union. We are not. I hold it is perfectly clear under that Act, under the conditions under which it was originally framed, that first of all there would be proportionate contribution, and, secondly, that there should be no indiscriminate expenditure. (Hear, hear.) No man can deny it. It is impossible to deny it on the basis of the provisions of the Act of Union, nor is it reasonable. What was going to happen when the fate and fortunes of the smaller and poorer country were to be subjected to the good will, the good faith and the integrity of the larger and richer country? There was no provision for separate accounts in that Act except the separate debit account in the interest of Ireland. It was impossible that that Act could be applied. What is there unjust in that? Who is to decide what the expenditure is to be, this amount of that expenditure, the mode of its application, its objects, where it should be? Well, practically the Saxon (Irish cheer), the Minister of the Saxon Treasury (renewed cheer), and he decides all those matters in this Parliament, there being only a small and insignificant Irish minority. That is his security. It has been said that the arrangement of taxation laid down in the Act of Union was altered by the Formosa Act of 1817. That it has not been altered it is true that the principle of separate taxation was eliminated, but it was eliminated not with a view of doing injustice to Ireland. It was eliminated with the intention and the idea of making a substantial contribution to the poorer country proportional to its relative taxable capacity. Honourable gentlemen opposite talk of themselves as Unionists, and yet they propose that the Federal Budget should be set up, that we should enter into an account every year. I say that this system of separate accounts is a direct step towards physical separation (hear, hear). If we are charged as a country first of all with the whole charges put upon us, and having done that, to contribute proportionately to our taxable capacity to Imperial expenditure, then I say that you must allow us to fix the scale of our local rates (hear, hear). It was stated I contended last year that Ireland should not contribute to the army and navy. I made no such statement. On the contrary I said under the Act of Union that Ireland had no security against an enormous and disproportionate expenditure on the army and navy. I said that what ever expenditure this Parliament would fix we were bound to contribute to it by contributing to the bill of the United Kingdom. If you would let it bill beyond our means our hard bargain will make us suffer. It is you that raise the question as to the relative interests of Ireland and Britain in this matter. We cannot raise it. We may protest against enormous expenditure, but whatever is fixed here we are bound to contribute as part of the Imperial expenditure. It has been said, I think, that Ireland is expensive to you, and I think we are bound to suggest that if Ireland is expensive to you, you are expensive to Ireland (Irish cheer). If Ireland costs the Imperial Exchequer too much, we may point to the fact in connection with the army and navy that they are altogether different from yours, and our contribution should be, as it would be under other circumstances, very

much less than our taxable capacity. There are accounts and calculations based on the Union Act, and they are accounts and calculations which Unionists in this house have tried to find means to evade. Ireland has now to contribute an enormous excess of her taxable capacity in the matter. You are arbitrators in your own case. You occupy the position of being judges and deciders in your own case, and we have the right to say to you, "You had no right to fix the scale too high for the poor country, though it may not be too high for the rich country." We do say that that scale is enormous, and evergrowing as it is, we are bound to pay when you decide the amount. I say when you call upon us to pay out of proportion to our taxable capacity you evade the terms of the Act of Union. The right hon. gentleman suggested that the agricultural grant was a relief. I am not one of those to contend that there is not some consideration to be given to some of the items which in Ireland are provided out of the Exchequer, while in England they have been provided out of the local rates. I believe that when you applied the principle of decentralisation and devolution to England, and told the people they might tax themselves I think you might consider that circumstance in the different conditions in Ireland (hear, hear). If you are going to apply that principle to Ireland you must put us in the same position as to those matters as the English people have been placed in. You must decentralise for Ireland as well as for England. You have reversed your policy in England; reverse that for Ireland (hear, hear). As to the agricultural grant for England, it came about in this way, that the Government, hearing that the agricultural distress was so great in England, considered that relief ought to be afforded to the distressed agriculturist, and we contended that it could not be applied to this country without being applied to Ireland which had much sorer distress, and we ultimately prevailed, not by vote, but it was found impossible to resist that view, and it was determined that we should have some measure of relief. In one sense while relief had already been given to England, you gave England a free gift; we had to buy them (hear, hear). It seems to me to be monstrous to say that a poor consumer in the West of Ireland is to be relieved because the landlord gets relief in his rates. (Hear, hear.) Restitution is what is required, and you must make that restitution by handing over to some local authority in Ireland representative of the ratepayers who would dispose of it for some purpose of general utility. We say the agricultural interest in Ireland has suffered more than in England. My opinion is that the case of Ireland, reduced to its last analysis, is very simple, that it is dependent upon the facts of the case with reference to the actual taxable capacity and the facts of the case with reference to the covenant of the Union. I say these matters have been so clearly made out that it is impossible to argue seriously against them, that there is a serious grievance to Ireland in the matter of this over-taxation, and that there should be a remedy provided. The right hon. gentleman has said that we should reconsider our view as to the Commission. He has said that that exemptions and abatements are absolutely impossible. He has put his foot down and said there will be no exemption or abatements that would interfere with the system of common taxation. As to the suggestion of the right hon. gentleman to appoint a Commission to make certain inquiries, I say there is no reason or sense in any such reference as that our case rests where it was; it rests upon the simple proposal that we are in equity and justice to be taxed according to our taxable capacity, that we are enormously overtaxed, and that therefore in some way or another relief should be given (Irish cheer). Upon those proposals we take our stand. This question has been pressed by those who have a material interest in the country, and also by those who, in addition to having that interest, have a deeper interest than we Irish Nationalist members (hear, hear). We may associate ourselves with them in the material gain to be derived from the success of this appeal. A political gain will be theirs also. To pay up justice will be the political gain, and it would be pointed out—it had often been said—that justice was not impossible for Ireland in the British Parliament (Irish cheer). Notwithstanding that we have endeavoured as far as we could to assist those who worked with us to obtain justice in this matter. If we fall in this appeal we shall be ready to repeat the statement, and to show the people once again that the effort to obtain justice here is hopeless. I acknowledge that the speech of the right hon. gentleman leaves very little hope, but I will not abandon the hope that some day or other your eyes may be opened and your hearts turned towards justice (loud Irish cheer).

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