

of some eight or nine thousand emigrants. This result is partly due to the more hopeful conditions held out by the Land Purchase Act and partly to the efforts of the Anti-Emigration Society, an organisation which is doing its best to stay the continuous stream of able-bodied labor which is enriching America and further impoverishing Ireland. The inducement to immigration comes from the other side of the Atlantic. It is stated that from forty to fifty per cent. of Irish emigrants have their fares paid at the other side—in other words, sent over to Ireland by relatives.

Mr. Davitt on the Reform Association

Mr. Davitt was the principal speaker at a recent meeting in Connemara. Mr. Davitt, referring to the Irish Reform Association, said Lord Dunraven was the successful inflator of the price of Irish landlord property, and an astute gentleman who had developed a nice talent for humoring emotional opponents. If the Irish Reform Association was going to try to convert the landlord class to some kind of pro-Irish sentiment that would be a good thing. But there was no evidence of that. It would rather appear that Lord Dunraven was attempting to induce or seduce Nationalist Ireland from the growing position of strength of the National movement to the gas and water level of his new proposals.

The Land Act

The Press Association has been officially supplied with a statement in reference to the working of the Irish Land Act from which it appears that applications have been made to the Estates Commissioners for advances for the sale of estates, exceeding ten and a half million pounds, and that the Commissioners have already sanctioned advances amounting to more than three millions, and expect before the first of November next to have sanctioned the balance of two millions available for expenditure during the first year of operation of the Act of 1903.

'Home Rule'

The inventor of the popular term of Home Rule was the late Rev. Professor Galbraith, one of the Senior Fellows of Trinity College, Dublin, who was the late Mr. Isaac Butt's most zealous associate in the revival of the Irish National Movement. It was at a meeting of the Convention of the old Home Rule Association, in Wicklow street, Dublin, in the summer of 1870, that Mr. Galbraith coined the expression which is now one of the most familiar terms in the English-speaking world. At the Home Rule Conference in November, 1873, Mr. Butt, in his great speech in explanation of the Irish demand formulated at that Conference, thus spoke of 'the magic words Home Rule': 'Over a torn and distracted country—a country agitated by dissension, weakened by distrust—we raised the banner on which we emblazoned the magic words, "Home Rule." We raised it with feeble hand. Tremblingly, with hesitation, almost stealthily, we unfurled that banner to the breeze. But wherever the legend we had emblazoned on its folds was seen the heart of the people moved to its words, and the soul of the nation felt their power and their spell. Those words were passed from man to man along the valley and the hillside. Everywhere men—even those who had been despairing—turned to that banner with confidence and hope.'

The Progress of Home Rule

In an article entitled 'The Progress of Home Rule' the London 'Speaker' comments on the significance of Irish landlords forming an Irish Reform Association, observing: 'Irish politics are necessarily saturated with suspicion, and it is not unreasonable for the Nationalists to believe that an Irish landlord is, like Pope, unable to take tea without a stratagem. But the Nationalists have been wise to welcome this advance, and the 'Times' has been wise to condemn it. For this means another stage in an important development of forces. In the eighteenth century almost all unbridled Irishmen and a small minority of generous Englishmen wanted to see a National Parliament in Dublin with a responsible Cabinet. Those aspirations were conquered. The Irish Parliament was destroyed, and instead the system of privilege and ascendancy was still further organised and developed. The history of a century has been a record of the severities by which that system has been protected and the concessions by which the revolutions it threatened to excite have been averted. For Liberals the moral of this latest incident is that if their reverses and disappointments and constant failures have sometimes taken all the heart out of their struggle, events have only confirmed the truth and the power of their ideas.'

People We Hear About

A London evening paper gives some biographical particulars of the leaders of the Irish Reform Association, the new organisation of landlords in Ireland, who follow Lord Dunraven rather than the Kildare Street Club and Lord Barrymore:—Lord Louth, who took a prominent part the other day in the formation of that remarkable new movement in Ireland, the Reform Association, promoted by the progressive landlords, is one of the Plunketts who spell the name with the double 't.' Like his kinsman Lord Fingall, he is a Catholic. Lord Dunsany is a Protestant Plunkett, as is Sir Horace of that ilk. The barony of Louth was under an outlawry from the time of Cromwell till 1798, for the reason that the holders of the title fought stoutly for Charles I. and James II. Of Mr. Crosbie the writer says:—Mr. Talbot-Crosbie, who proposed the resolution in favor of the formation of the Reform Association, has also a piquant Jacobite tradition in his family. His ancestor, the Crosbie of Ardfert—the Talbot is a recent introduction—was a member of the Irish Parliament of James II., and he refused to take the oath of allegiance to William III. At last Crosbie was made Earl of Glandore, and it is from the only daughter of the last earl, who died in 1845, that Mr. Talbot-Crosbie has derived the name and estate.

Lady Herbert of Lea (says the London 'Daily Chronicle'), the latest victim of a jewel robbery, is a life-long friend of Florence Nightingale. It was at the instance of Lord Herbert, then Mr. Sidney Herbert, and at the head of the War Office, that Miss Nightingale organised a staff of nurses for the Crimea. Lady Herbert worked indefatigably in forwarding the scheme, and after the departure of Miss Nightingale for Scutari, she got together a second party of nurses and despatched them to reinforce the first company. Lady Herbert also promoted the emigration of poor women to Canada, and was with her husband actively engaged in philanthropic work in the vicinity of Wilton House, the family seat near Salisbury. Fifty years ago Lord and Lady Herbert were regarded as the handsomest couple in society, and to-day Lady Herbert remains a woman of singular charm and fascination. Another London newspaper gives the following interesting particulars regarding this venerable, philanthropic Catholic lady: Lady Herbert of Lea is the mother of the present Earl of Pembroke, and is over 80. She is a daughter of the Hon. Charles Ashe a Court, and in 1816 married the Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, whose statue stands outside the War Office in memory of his tenure of the Secretaryship. Mr. Sidney Herbert, who was the second son of the eleventh Earl of Pembroke, was raised to the peerage as Lord Herbert of Lea in 1861, during the lifetime of his father. He died in the same year, and a married life of singular happiness has been succeeded by a long widowhood devoted to good works. Cardinal Manning had been her husband's oldest school and college friend, and he described him to her as 'the holiest man I ever met.' After her bereavement, Lady Herbert of Lea turned to religion for consolation, and was admitted to the Catholic Church, in which she has ever since been very active.

The Duke of Norfolk, the premier duke of England, is noted for his unpretentious manners and characteristic kindnesses to those about him. A correspondent who has been staying near the Duke's Sussex home states that he recently heard many instances of these traits. When he arrives by himself at Arundel railway station from town the Duke rarely troubles his coachman to meet him with the carriage, but prefers to walk up to the castle. His unassuming manners often mislead strangers as to his ducal rank. On one occasion he was passing through Arundel when a butcher's boy who had sustained a puncture to his bicycle demanded the Duke's assistance. 'Hi! mister,' the lad called, 'give us a hand with this bicycle.' Without demur, the Earl-Marshal went to the boy's assistance, and held the machine while the latter repaired the puncture. At another time, the Duke (the correspondent says) was driving to an appointment at Littlehampton, when he overtook an old woman laden with a bundle. Stopping his carriage, he invited her to ride with him. Glad for a lift, and unaware of his identity, she entered the carriage. 'Which way are you going?' the Duke asked her, and found that her home branched off in a different direction from his own after they had covered a considerable distance. Therefore, getting down at the nearest point to his own destination, he walked the remainder of the way and sent the coachman and the carriage to convey the old woman to her home!