

Ireland and India

In connection with Mr. Morley's appointment to the Indian Office, it is worth recording that in his 'Life of Gladstone' he compares Ireland with India in the following terms:—'England has been able to rule India, Mill said, because the business of ruling devolved upon men who passed their lives in India and made Indian interests their regular occupation. India has, on the whole, been governed with a pretty full perception of its differences from England. Ireland, on the contrary, suffering a worse misfortune than absentee landlords, was governed by an absentee Parliament.'

Barren Results

It was suggested by the 'Irish Times' prior to the General Election that the Conservatives should contest all the Nationalist seats throughout the country. As nearly all the Nationalist members were returned unopposed it is evident the suggestion was not adopted. In 1885 the Conservatives adopted a similar course, but the results were such that it was not likely they would attempt it a second time. The story is told that Mr. 'Buckshot' Forster was one of the gentlemen engaged in bringing this statesmanlike enterprise to fruition. The following were some of the results of the starting of loyalist candidates:—In South Cork the loyalist candidate polled 195 votes, the Nationalist 4820. In Mid-Cork the loyalist polled 106, the Nationalist 5033. In North Kilkenny the loyalist polled 174, the Nationalist 4184. In West Mayo the loyalist polled 131, the Nationalist 4790. In South Mayo the loyalist polled 75, the Nationalist 4900. In East Kerry the loyalist polled 30 votes, the Nationalist 3169.

Irish Industries

Satisfactory headway (writes a Dublin correspondent) is being made with the movement for the promotion of Irish industries at home, but, considering the depleted condition of the population, it is absolutely necessary that a market should be found abroad for Irish manufactured goods, if employment on a large scale is to obtain. In Great Britain and the United States, fortunately, the movement seems to be taking hold, and if manufacturers only advertise and push their goods, much can be accomplished. Unfortunately Irish manufacturers, with a few exceptions, are not given to advertising their goods. The sale of Irish wares at Bristol recently, amounting to over £3000, should open their eyes to what can be done by publicity. A letter to his Eminence Cardinal Logue, from Mr. Myles Murphy, of New York, also emphasises this fact. He says: 'The Irish manufacturers are adverse to spending money on advertising, which is vitally necessary here.'

Vital Statistics

According to the annual report of the Registrar-General for Ireland, the estimated population of the country had fallen in the middle of the year 1905 to 4,402,192. The natural increase of population, that is the excess of births over deaths, was 24,298, while, on the other hand, the loss by emigration amounted to 36,902. A decrease of 12,604 in the population would thus appear to have taken place during the year, but against this decrease there is some slight set-off of immigration of which no official record has been obtained. The marriages registered during the year numbered 22,961, the births 103,811, and the deaths 70,513. The marriage rate, which is 5.22 per 1000 of the estimated population, shows an increase of 0.01 as compared with that for the year 1903, and is 0.21 above the average rate for the ten years 1894-1903, and the highest rate for any of those years. The birth rate (23.6 per 1000) shows an increase of 0.5 as compared with that for the preceding year, and is also 0.5 above the average rate for the ten years 1894-1903, and the death-rate (18.1 per 1000) is 0.6 above the rate for the preceding year, and 0.1 above the average rate for the ten years 1894-1903.

The Duke of Norfolk attained his 58th birthday on December 27, his Grace having been born on December 27, 1847.

MYERS & CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George Street. They guarantee the highest class of work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth.

People We Hear About

Seven out of the thirty Nobel awards have gone to Germany—a fact which sets it first among the nations; but Poland, whose nationality is supposed to have been obliterated by the partition of its territory among Russia, Austria, and Prussia, makes, all things considered, a more remarkable showing, since the prize for idealistic literature this year goes to Henry Sienkiewicz, author of the immortal trilogy, 'Fire and Sword,' 'The Deluge,' and 'Pan Michael,' commemorating the struggle between his country and Russia, and 'Quo Vadis,' which made him a citizen of the whole world of literature; while the first woman to receive a Nobel prize was a Pole, Madame Curie, the discoverer of radium.

King Christian of Denmark, who passed away last week in his 88th year, was an interesting personality, not by reason of the power he exercised, which was indeed very little, as by reason of his connection with many of the European Royal families. He was father of Queen Alexandra, the King of Greece, and the Empress Marie of Russia, grandfather of the King and Queen of Norway, the Czar of Russia, and the Prince of Wales, father-in-law of King Edward, and had remoter connections innumerable. The Crown Prince Frederick, who succeeds to the throne, was born on June 3, 1843, and is consequently in his 63rd year. He was married on July 28, 1869 to the Princess Louisa, daughter of King Carl XV. of Sweden and Norway, and his second son, Prince Karl, was married to H.R.H. Princess Maud in 1896.

Mr. Lloyd-George, President of the Board of Trade in the new Liberal Ministry, is fond of telling a story of a meeting at Flint, at which his chairman said: 'I hail to introduce to you the member for Carnarvon Boroughs. He has come here to reply to what the Bishop of St. Asaph said the other night about Welsh disestablishment. In my opinion, gentlemen, the Bishop of St. Asaph is one of the biggest liars in creation; but he has his match in Mr. Lloyd-George!' The President of the Board of Trade is a frail, nervously energetic little man, with the true Celtic temperament; his speeches vibrate with passion. But the guerilla warfare in which he has distinguished himself must now give place to official moderation and caution, and he will probably sigh at times for the freedom of Opposition.

Nine of the 33 cities of Massachusetts, including its capital, will have mayors with Celtic names during 1906; but of these only one is a native of Ireland, the others being American born. Five have been elected for the first time and two re-elected, while two were chosen last year for terms of two years each. All are Democrats. The new mayors are—John F. Fitzgerald, of Boston; James H. McMahon, of Pittsburgh; John P. Kane, of Lawrence; John B. Tracey, of Taunton; and Dr. John T. Duggan, of Worcester. Those re-elected are James B. Casey, of Lowell, and Theobald M. Connor, of Northampton. The other two are John T. Coughlin, of Fall River, and Michael F. Dwyer, of Medford. The above list includes the three youngest chief magistrates of the State, Mayors Casey, 28 years old; Connor, 31; and Coughlin, 33.

Mr. Henry Labouchere's retirement robs the House of Commons of one of its most amusing and most useful figures. That combination of Radical politician, man of the world, and genial cynic was irresistible, whether in the House itself or in the smoking-room, where Mr. Labouchere was for years a raconteur favored by all parties. The nephew of the first Baron Taunton, he entered life in the diplomatic service. There are many stories of his superb nonchalance as an attaché, but he soon tired of diplomacy. He followed an American circus through Mexico, and acted as cashier, when all the receipts used to be in oranges. He was the correspondent of the 'Daily News,' the 'besieged resident' shut up in Paris in 1870. Mr. Labouchere was returned for the Royal Borough of Windsor as a Liberal in 1865. He joined Mr. Edmund Yates in the 'World,' of which he was city editor, and then started 'Truth,' the most successful weekly journal ever seen. In 1880 he was returned with Mr. Bradlaugh for Northampton, being selected, as he used to relate afterwards, to represent the 'moderate Liberals.' He has ever since been known as an ardent Radical. He was the person to whom Richard Pigott came to confess that he forged the Parnell papers.