

government of the colony, was owing to the fact that the native Irish had repossessed themselves of nearly all the land that had ever hitherto been wrested from them by "the gallant services of themselves (the remonstrancers) or their ancestors." Edward was obliged to temporise. He answered this remonstrance graciously and "played" the dangerous barons.

But the policy of the ordinance was not relinquished. It was to be pushed on as opportunity offered. Eight years subsequent to the above proceedings—in 1360—Lionel, son of King Edward, was sent over as Lord Lieutenant. He brought with him a considerable army, and was to inaugurate the new system with great *éclat*. He had personal claims to assert as well as a State policy to carry out. By his wife, Elizabeth de Burgh, he succeeded to the empty titles of Earl of Ulster and Lord of Connaught, and the possessions supposed to follow them; but these were just then held by their rightful Irish owners, and one of Lionel's objects was to obtain them by force of arms for himself. Soon after landing, he marched against "the Irish enemy," and, confident in the strength of newly-landed legions, he issued a proclamation "forbidding any of Irish birth to come near his army." This arrogance was soon humbled. His vaunted English army was a failure. The Irish cut it to pieces; and Prince Lionel was obliged to abandon his campaign and retreated to Dublin a prey to mortification and humiliation. His courtiers plied him with flatteries in order to cheer him. By a process not very intelligible, they argued that he conquered Clare, though O'Brien had utterly defeated him there, and compelled him to fly to Dublin; and they manufactured for him out of this piece of adulatory invention the title of "*Clarence*." But he only half-accepted these pleasant fictions, the falseness of which he knew too well. He recalled his arrogant and offensive proclamation, and besought the aid of the Anglo-Irish. To gain their favor he conferred additional titles and privileges on some of them, and knighted several of the most powerful commoners. After an administration of seven years, it was deemed high time for Lionel to bring the new policy into greater prominence. In 1367 he convened a Parliament at Kilkenny, whereat he succeeded in having passed that memorable statute known ever since in history as "The Statute of Kilkenny"—the first formal enactment in that "penal code of race" which was so elaborately developed by all subsequent English legislation for hundreds of years. The Act sets out by reciting that "Whereas, at the conquest of the land of Ireland, and for a long time after, the English of the said land used the English language, mode of riding, and apparel, and were governed and ruled, both they and their subjects, called Betaghese (villeins) according to English law, etc.; but now many English of the said land, forsaking the English language, manners, mode of riding, laws, and usages, live and govern themselves according to the manners, fashion, and language of the Irish enemies, and also have made divers marriages and alliances between themselves and the Irish enemies aforesaid: it is therefore enacted (amongst other provisions) that all intermarriages, fosterings, gossiping, and buying or selling with the enemy shall be accounted treason; that English names, fashions, and manners shall be resumed under penalty of the confiscation of the delinquent's lands; that March laws and Brehon laws are illegal; and that there shall be no law but English law; that the Irish shall not pasture their cattle on English lands; that the English shall not entertain Irish rhymers, minstrels, or newsmen; and, moreover, that no 'mere Irishman' shall be admitted to any ecclesiastical benefice or religious house situated within the English district."

The Anglo-Irish barons must have been strangely overawed or overreached when they were brought to pass this statute: several of themselves being at that moment answerable to all its penalties! Its immediate result, however, well-nigh completed the ruin of the power it was meant to restore and strengthen. It roused the native Irish to a full conception of the English policy, and simultaneously, though without the least concert, they fell upon the colony on all sides,

drove in the outposts, destroyed the castles, hunted the barons, and reoccupied the country very nearly up to the walls of Dublin. "O'Connor of Connact and O'Brien of Thomond," says Hardiman, "laid aside for the moment their private feuds, and united against the common foe. The Earl of Desmond, Lord Justice, marched against them with a considerable army, but was defeated and slain (captured) in a sanguinary engagement fought A.D. 1369, in the County of Limerick. O'Farrell, the chieftain of Annaly, committed great slaughter in Meath. The O'Mores, Cavanaghs, O'Byrne's, and O'Tooles, pressed upon Leinster, and the O'Neills raised the red arm in the north. The English of the Pale were seized with consternation and dismay, and terror and confusion reigned in their councils, while the natives continued to gain ground upon them in every direction. At this crisis an opportunity offered such as had never before occurred, of terminating the dominion of the English in Ireland; but if the natives had ever conceived such a project, they were never sufficiently united to achieve it. The opportunity passed away, and the disunion of the Irish saved the colony."

As for the obnoxious statute, it was found impossible to enforce it further. Cunning policy did not risk permanent defeat by pressing it at such a moment. It was allowed to remain "a dead letter" for a while; not dead, however, but only slumbering.

(To be continued.)

TIME AND THE NEW TASK

One way in which representative government misrepresents has hardly been enough noticed (says the *New Witness*). It arises from a change in the value of time. The period during which a man remains a member is still the same. But the period during which a man can become a millionaire is very much shorter. When wealth was reckoned in a more human fashion by harvests, when even a great lord would make a gift or promise in the form of "three years of land," no great risk was run by putting a man on his political probation for five years of land, or seven years of land. If he had helped the country he could be retained; if he had only helped himself he could be rejected; but he could not have helped himself to very much. The modern system of swift and secret finance, of shares, tips and tricks of all kinds, has thrown out altogether this old calculation of septennial parliaments, and would probably make as much havoc of triennial parliaments. It may hardly take a month to make a millionaire; while it took a lifetime to make a miser. The millionaire, by that time, may not even care whether he is re-elected to the House of Commons; he may already have purchased a seat in the House of Lords. He may already have purchased a newspaper, and be making and unmaking elections and parliaments. He may already be secretly supporting the party funds, and thus secretly supporting 10 parliamentary candidates to succeed if he fails. All this arises from no change in the political principle, but from a mere accident of the clock or the calendar. For the modern man time has shrunk: considering how he uses it, we might say that it has shrivelled. Man's democratic dignity, being akin to his divinity, is constantly being thus caught in the network of time and space. But the present case has a very practical application.

Most of the numerous and various groups that are discontented with the last election are looking forward to the next election. It is generally believed, and not without reason, that it may come very soon. There is good ground, doubtless, for discontented democrats saying that it cannot come too soon. But the point for our immediate purpose is that, however soon it comes, it will come too late. The pirates will already have seized the sort of treasure for which they are seeking. The particular processes, by which professional politicians put themselves in a position of privi-

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