

hands the management of some part at least of its own domestic concerns and the shaping of its own fortunes. And there is no reason to think that the Irish people have ever forfeited that elementary right, or to fear that when it is vindicated they will not use it with judgment and moderation.

THE PEER AND THE PEASANT.

In his speech in the Home Rule debate Lord Lansdowne gave vent to his sentiments respecting men who toil with their hands. 'One word,' said he, 'as to the body of electors who support this demand. The large majority of them are peasants, and I venture to think that the Irish peasant is not a very good judge of the kind of political issues which the Bill raises; and certainly, when it comes to matters affecting the United Kingdom, we may well hesitate before we allow the Irish peasant to have a determining voice with regard to them.' The "Irish peasant" (declares the *Belfast Irish News*) was wise enough and brave enough to shatter the yoke of the Lansdownes and Clanricardes; hence the calumnies flung at him by the despoilers whom he has beaten. If the "peasants" in Ireland did not display an infinitely greater amount of capacity and intelligence in their own sphere than the Marquis of Lansdowne has shown as a "statesman" and ruler, this country would have been sunk in irretrievable bankruptcy many years ago.

THE DERRY VICTOR.

Mr. Winston Churchill presided at a dinner given in the Hotel Cecil, London, on February 1, in honor of Mr. David C. Hogg, the victor of Derry. The Lord Advocate and a number of Liberal M.P.'s were present. So also was Mr. Redmond. Mr. Churchill, in his speech, said the Derry victory was one less of partisanship than of conciliation and good-will. Speaking of the Ulster minority, Mr. Churchill said that in the Home Rule discussions in the House of Commons they had heard nothing but hot-house hatred and incubated bigotry. At no time had they seen any desire to face the facts of the situation of the real needs of the case. Contrasting the position of Mr. Bonar Law, whom he severely criticised, with that of Mr. Redmond, Mr. Churchill said that history would reveal in another age the attitudes of the Unionist and Nationalist leaders. On the one hand, folly, spite and venom, and defeat; on the other, statecraft, generosity, and good-will, marching to victory. Mr. Redmond, in a brief speech, said that anything which would safeguard the interests and liberties of the Unionist minority in Ulster, Nationalists would be the first to accept. He denied, however, the right of any section to dictate to a nation. No community rebelled unless against oppression. There was no oppression in Ulster, and therefore no resistance.

CASTLEDAWSON CONTRADICTIONS.

Mr. John Muldoon, M.P., has written a very effective letter to the *Daily Chronicle* regarding the telegram from the Rev. Robert Barron read by Captain Craig in the House of Commons, and giving the names of seven children alleged to have been injured in the Castledawson affray. Mr. Muldoon points out that on August 7, 1912, Mr. Barron wrote to the *Times* in these words: 'So far as I know, no woman or child was struck or stabbed, but many of them received serious injury from shock.' Four months later, examined in Derry Assize Court, Mr. Barron was asked by Justice Wright whether he had seen or observed any injury to women or children. The answer was that he had not. On Mr. Barron's own showing, then, his present assertion is that what he said on August 7 was not in accordance with fact, that what he swore on December 19 was not in accordance with fact, that his statement contained in the telegram to Captain Craig gives the actual and accurate facts—and for the first time.

WANTED KNOWN—That Bill-heads, Circulars, Memoriam Cards, Concert Tickets and Programmes, and General Printing of every description are executed at the *Tablet* Office. Moderate rates.

People We Hear About

The Empress Eugenie will celebrate her 87th birthday on May 3, which, curiously enough, is the anniversary of the death of Napoleon I. A noted horsewoman in her younger days, the Empress has latterly shown a great fondness for yachting.

Our Home exchanges report the death of Baroness von Hugel, who passed away at Cambridge, England, at the age of 82 years. Her husband, the late Baron von Hugel, was the distinguished diplomatist and botanist, the friend of Metternich, and some time Austrian Envoy at the Courts of Florence and Brussels. She was the mother of Friedrich, Baron von Hugel, the Catholic philosopher and Biblical critic, and of Baron Anatole von Hugel, curator of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Cambridge.

An interesting instance of a peerage being secured by a little girl two years of age, is afforded by the career of Baroness Beaumont, who was born on August 1, 1894, and whose barony was called out of abeyance in her favor when she was not two years of age, on June 1, 1896. The Beaumont peerage dates back to the fourteenth century, but on the death of the seventh Baron in 1507 the peerage fell into abeyance until 1840. A second but much briefer abeyance followed in 1895, when the tenth Baron left at his death two daughters, to the elder of whom, the present Baroness (who, by the way, is a Catholic), the succession was awarded by the Crown the following year.

By the victory of Londonderry, Liberalism gains not only a moral but a physical reinforcement (says a Lobby correspondent). Mr. Hogg, who won the seat, towers above his new colleagues, and the fame of the brothers Wason, the two Scottish giants, is threatened with eclipse. Perhaps either of them would weigh down the scales against the newcomer, but in height Mr. Hogg has the advantage. It is fortunate that he takes his seat as a Liberal, and not as a Nationalist, for it is difficult to see how little Mr. Patrick O'Brien, the Nationalist Whip, could communicate instructions orally to the giant.

On Saturday, February 1, while the students of Scots College, Rome, were playing football in the grounds of the Villa Daria Pamphili, one of them, named William Hart, from Dumbarton, and a student of the Glasgow archdiocese, met with an accident. At the time the Queen-Mother was on the grounds, and one of her attendants, seeing the accident, ran to inform her. She immediately placed her motor car at the disposal of the injured student, and Mr. Hart was speedily brought home, the Queen remaining until the automobile returned. Later in the evening the Rector, Monsignor Fraser, went to the palace and conveyed to Queen Margaret the thanks of the superiors and students for her gracious kindness.

Mr. Samuel Young, the Irish M.P., who has entered on his ninety-second year (says the Parliamentary correspondent of *London Opinion*), was the happy recipient of many congratulations on his birthday. He is incomparably the most wonderful old man that Westminster has ever seen, for, despite his weight of years, his step is still jaunty, he attends most regularly to his Parliamentary duties, deals with his own correspondence, and is in full possession of bodily and mental vigor. Indeed, so far as I can see, there is not the slightest reason why 'Sam' should not go on living for ever. Mr. C. P. Villiers was ninety-six when he died in 1898, but he was only nominally an M.P. during his last ten years, and was unable to discharge any of the public duties of his position; so that Mr. Young holds the record easily. I am told by a prejudiced teetotaler that he is a distiller, and that his longevity is due to the fact that he has never tasted his own whisky. The Grand Old Man does not deny the impeachment, and last night I heard him send a circle of English friends into a roar of laughter by adding: 'And, what's more, I never sell any of it in Ireland, so that it kills nobody but Englishmen.'

Thomson and Co.

FOR MONUMENTS AND TOMBSTONES. (Opp. First Church)

Designs sent on application.

MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN.