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reprisals to be found in the press of the time, and specific threats to murder Sinn Feiners in places where constables were murdered, threats which were afterwards put into force. As a last resource of British power, Irish fathers and mothers were warned that the crime of giving shelter to their sons, if they were rebels, was punishable with the penalty with which Germany had punished Edith Cavell. Step by step we were making Ireland a second Belgium.

While this was happening the Home Rule Act was removed from the Statute Book and a contemptuous measure was passed through Parliament. The Government paid as much regard to the wishes of Ireland as they would have paid to the wishes of Kamschatka. The suggestions of Sir Horace Plunkett, the most distinguished Irishman now in public life, free as few men from any suspicion of faction, were treated with special derision. The most important feature of the Bill was its division of Ireland into two nations, one of 26 counties and the other of six; one a population of 1½ millions, the other a population of 3½ millions. The British Parliament decreed that Ireland could only have a single legislature if the 3½ millions agreed to give half the representation to the 1½ million.

In this contest between the British Government and the Irish people it is easy to trace failures of statesmen of all parties, Irish and British; but the ruling error is unmistakable. England treats Ireland not like a sister nation but as a subject race. This fatal fixed idea ruined the co-operation of the two peoples in the war; it is the one obstacle to peace.

EPILOGUE.

Mr. Cornford has described in his powerful book, *Thucydides Mythistoricus*, the dramatic instinct that made Thucydides write the Melian dialogue, the famous dialogue between the Athenian Government and the delegates of the Island of Melos, which ended in war and a massacre of the islanders. As a military episode the conquest of this small island was the merest incident; as a moral episode it stands out in the pages of the greatest history ever written. Athens had done noble things for liberty; she had overthrown the Persian Empire; her statesmen and orators and poets and philosophers had lighted the imagination of the world with their ideas. Thucydides wanted to show in all its play of argument and emotion the infatuation that was drawing her to her ruin. We are engaged in such a dialogue. On one view Ireland counts as little as Melos in the present misery of the world; her whole population would scarcely fill two or three of the dying cities of Europe. England, who argues with her, has produced great and generous statesmen, orators, and poets; her ideas hold a commanding place in the history of progress. She, too, has overthrown a proud Empire by the willing self-sacrifice of thousands of her sons. They made peoples free by their blood; England could make a people free by one act of justice. A Member of Parliament, speaking of Ireland in the House of Commons, reminded the Prime Minister that we had given the Czecho-Slovaks their freedom. "You forget," retorted the Prime Minister, "that Austria was beaten and broken in the war."

"Of divinity we believe," said the Athenian politician two thousand years ago, "and of humanity we know that everywhere, under constraint of nature, it rules wherever it can hold the mastery. We did not make this law, nor are we the first to observe it. It existed already when we inherited it; we shall bequeath it to exist for ever." A few months later the Empire of Athens passed to its catastrophe.

Form the habit of giving cheer and encouragement to others, never uttering needlessly a disheartening word. Don't quench hope, or throw cold water on reasonable enthusiasm, or chill ardour, or create an atmosphere of censure and fault-finding, but make folks tingle to the fingertips with the heartiness and spontaneity of your presence and greeting.

THE CATHOLIC WORLD

GENERAL.

During the 15 years of its existence, the Catholic Church Extension Society has built over 2000 churches in the United States and its dependencies. Through its endeavors a sum of 70,000 dollars was recently collected for the relief of the sufferers in Central Europe.

There is an inspiring article in *America* for January 8 on "Missionary Activity in Holland." There are 935 Dutch Missionaries laboring in heathen lands and 4½ million Catholics depend upon them for spiritual ministrations. The area covered by their missionary zeal is very extensive, being 201 times that of Holland. To create enthusiasm and zeal for the spread of the light of the Gospel in pagan lands, articles are published in magazines and in such leading newspapers as *De Tyd*, which successfully competes with any secular daily for literary excellence and for commercial, financial, and general news. Every year at a certain period, a regular crusade is organised on behalf of the missions by means of exhibitions, sermons, and lectures, and the people are instructed on the duty of contributing their mite for the propagation of the Faith.

CATHOLIC MISSIONS IN INDIA.

Sir Michael Sadler, the Vice-Chancellor of Leeds University, and one of the greatest living experts on education, writes to the current issue of *East and West*:

"It has been my privilege to serve with six colleagues on the commission which was charged with the duty of inquiring into secondary and higher education in Bengal. Two out of the seven of us were Indians—one a devout and orthodox Brahmin, Judge of the High Court of Calcutta, now acting Chief Justice of Bengal; the other a distinguished Mussulman, deeply respectful of the traditions of his own people, himself trained at Cambridge and another European University. They, in common with us, visited, so far as time allowed, all the great centres of missionary education in Bengal during the 18 months of our work. Without a dissentient voice, unanimously and with our whole hearts, we seven signed this statement about the work of missionary education in the Presidency. We said: 'It does not fall within our province to refer to the aims which inspire the labors of religious communities and associations in their service of the people, but we shall fail in our duty if we did not record the deep impression made upon us during our visits to colleges and schools in all parts of Bengal by the self-devotion of the men and women who, in obedience to the call of their Faith, are bearing part in the higher education of the Presidency. Their insight and practical experience are of the utmost value to the whole educational system. Their example is a source of much strength. Their aspirations are an enrichment of its ideals. What they and their foregoers have accomplished in the field of education has been an inestimable boon. British influence in India rests, ought to rest, and can only permanently rest, on the moral confidence of the vast majority of the population in the impartiality of the Government, in the personal honor, unselfish devotion, unflagging labors of its servants, on the self-sacrificing love and devotion of those who give themselves to missionary work in India, on the example of all Europeans, and, not least, on our example at home.'—*Southern Cross*, South Africa.

Mr. Martin Fitzgerald and Mr. Hamilton Edwards, directors, and Mr. P. J. Hooper, editor, of the *Freeman's Journal*, who were sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment recently by a court-martial in Dublin for publication in the *Freeman's Journal* of an account of a flogging of a prisoner, which the Crown denied, were released from Mountjoy Prison during this week (says the *Catholic Herald* for January 16). The release is said to be unconditional.

Bertram M. Kessell

LEADING JEWELLER, HERETAUNGA STREET, HASTINGS.
TRY—and be convinced.