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PRICE TWOPENCE.

Current Comments

"Ireland has a right to look to the people of the United States for help," declared Eamon de Valera, speaking to a crowded mass meeting at the Academy of Music, Lynchburg, Virginia, says the "Washington Times." "Every time in the last hundred years that the American flag has been in danger, true sons of Ireland have been among the first to defend it. Irish blood has flowed in every battle that America ever fought," declared Ireland's spokesman. Continuing, De Valera said: "We shall win, for we are the only white nation on earth still in the bonds of slavery. We shall win even though we have to wait the downfall of Britain for our freedom. For as Assyria died, as Rome died, and as other Empires died, Britain will die—and that soon." The Irish leader (concludes the dispatch) received a splendid reception, the meeting being one of the most enthusiastic he has addressed.

Ex-Senator Vandeman, of Mississippi, who is also former Governor of that State, having heard the address of President De Valera at Jackson, was so moved by the Irish leader's appeal, that he wrote in an editorial in his weekly paper: "If this war was fought to make the world safe for democracy, the man who has done more to bring about a free world than any other man in the world is Eamon de Valera. He has pretended purpose of the war. There is not an instance in the history of the world where a strong government such as Great Britain, so shamefully and brutally oppressed a weak nation as England has opposed and outraged Ireland."

When the *Charlotte* (North Carolina) newspaper refused to give any space to advance notices of the De Valera meeting, and believed this un-American boycott would make the meeting a failure, they underestimated the Celtic resourcefulness, says the *Washington correspondent*. "The *Charlotte Herald*," adds: "Charles P. Sweeney, who travels with De Valera, hastened to Charlotte, and within twenty-four hours wrote, edited, and published ten thousand copies of a special four-page edition of his up-to-date daily. A score of members distributed the paper through Charlotte. The new daily made a big hit; the meeting was a huge success; the *Charlotte* editors were dumfounded; and President De Valera was welcomed to the hearts of the independent citizens of Charlotte. Congratulations to enterprising Mr. Sweeney! He saved the day at Charlotte—the city where the *Meinberg* Declaration of Independence was announced to the world. If they were able to speak to-day, those immortal men who signed that declaration of right to freedom and liberty for America would condemn the intolerant editors who refused to give a hearing to another nation seeking to throw off Britain's shackles."

Justice F. C. Eschweiler, of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, speaking recently before a large audience in Milwaukee, said: "For almost ten centuries Ireland's history has been but the story of her wrongs; and the list of wrongs committed against her as long as the list of blessings conferred on her. For a period over five times longer than the national existence of this, our people, Ireland has appealed in the name of justice but for, and only for, that which is now declared to be the elemental and fundamental right inherent in a people as such—self-determination. In her cry she has come down the long line of suffering centuries still—and now in these days of all days—to remain unheeded?"

"It is refreshing," says the "News-Letter" of Washington, to find here and there among those of English blood who come to this country, one who is not a protagonist of imperialism. Dr. Charles F. Aked, formerly

the pastor of a church in Liverpool, England, is already well known in this country as a lecturer with enlightened ideas and as the pastor of the Fifth Avenue Baptist Church, New York, who was brought to this country chiefly through the instrumentality of John D. Rockefeller. In a sermon recently at the First Congregational Church, Kansas City, Mo., this clergyman of English blood pronounced as bitter an arraignment of English oppression in Ireland as has been heard for many a day. Dr. Aked denounced artificially engendered religious intolerance and, as what he characterized as his Christian duty, quoted President Wilson on the rights of small nations and demanded the fulfilment of the war-time pledges of the Allies.

Mr. Daniel T. O'Connell, Director of Friends of Irish Freedom National Bureau of Information, speaking to a Pressman on the action of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, said: "The vote is a big victory for Ireland. The resolution will be adopted by both branches of Congress."

Recent testimony before the U.S. Senate Naval Committee has shown that one point supported the position taken by this Bureau, says the "News-Letter," when, through its Director, it charged Admiral Sims with being pro-British in his views. "Admiral Sims did not disavow the charge of Admiral Sims that Benson had said: 'Don't let the British pull the wool over your eyes.' Before the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, the witness was willing to allow Sims' version of the incident to stand as the expression of his sentiments. Testimony after testimony brought out at this hearing is branding Sims before the world as pro-British in all his views. The inspection of his attacks upon Ireland is now clearly revealed. The country as a whole has at last been able to verify all that the Director of this Bureau so strongly asserted months ago. The extreme British sympathies of Admiral Sims are to be regretted by all sincere Americans. Secretary Daniels himself, in his testimony before the Senate Committee has given open expression to his regret. He said: 'Sims genuflected to British Admiralty ideas and accepted British views, so fully and completely that British honours so earnestly that he came to regard as anti-British such a rugged American as Admiral Benson who is 'All American': neither 'pro' nor 'anti' with reference to any other country. . . . If I had known that he proposed, under the permission granted him to tell the story of what the Navy had done overseas, to denounce the Irish people as he did in his articles in 'World's Work,' the permission would not have been granted."

Reports to hand of a great meeting held recently in Brisbane show that the cause of Irish Liberty is still going ahead in Australia. Archbishop Dubig, who presided, delivered a splendid address, and the Rev. Fr. O'Flynn, Dr. Morgan Lane, and Mr. T. J. Ryan, M.H.R., also spoke. At the close of the meetings the Most Rev. Dr. Dubig announced that Mr. J. Pihelly (the Acting-Premier) was to have spoken in support of the motion affirming the right of Ireland to self-determination, but had been detained elsewhere by another important engagement, and forwarded a cheque for fifty guineas towards the Irish Victory Fund.

In the course of an eloquent address, Archbishop Dubig said if they were assembled to further self-determination of any small nation without the British Empire they would be applauded from end to end of the Empire. But, seeing that they were assembled to urge the granting of self-determination to a small nation "within the Empire," they must be prepared to meet both opposition and criticism. The Irish

question was now a question of world-wide import and interest. They already had the declared sympathy of the great Republic of America. It was frequently asked, "Why not let these contending Irish parties fight it out among themselves?" Were they asked that question when the self-determination of Belgium and Montenegro and Serbia were involved? The answer to that question had been recently given in Melbourne when 10,000 returned soldiers, led by 14 V.C. heroes, headed an Irish procession. It was time that minority rule in Ireland was ended, and that Ireland should be permitted to work out her own destiny.

Mr. T. W. Ryan, in moving a resolution endorsing the resolutions passed by the Irish Race Convention held in Melbourne last November, affirming the right of Ireland to complete separation, said the views expressed in the Melbourne resolutions expressed the views of the Irish race throughout the world. The views of democracy throughout the world. They stood for majority rule and for self-determination—now approved throughout the civilised world. Was there any reason why they in Australia should be denied to stand up for the eternal principle of democracy? It had been his privilege to have visited Ireland during his war in 1916 and in 1919. He did not know how serious a crisis he had recently, until he read the *Irish Times*. He had visited De Valera at his home. While he was in Ireland, the view was universally held that the form of the government of Ireland should be left to the people of Ireland themselves. In America he found the spirit of democracy to be the same. De Valera's visit to the United States had been triumphantly successful. Speaking of the Treaty of Versailles, De Valera had said: "Sign that treaty as it stands and you enslave my country!" And the great United States has not yet signed that treaty. It would appear that the rule of self-determination should operate only without the British Empire and not within it. At the conference at Amsterdam, which he had attended, the workers of the whole world had passed a resolution approving of self-determination being granted to Ireland. The cause of Ireland was the cause of liberty. He did not ask for any injustice to be done anyone else, but merely that justice should be extended to her.

The right of self-determination, continued Mr. Ryan, had been conceded to the Germans in the Valley of the Saar, yet the same right was denied Ireland. It was only when Ireland was concerned that there was any suggestion made that the unity of the British Empire was endangered. Ireland merely claimed the right of self-government, of self-determination, and it was their duty to be the first to have that principle applied to Ireland. They must rely on public opinion among the democratic, and the lovers of liberty the world over, and they could not finally fail to achieve for Ireland what she was asking for. It would be the great world, to see a United Ireland bound together by common interests that could no more be severed, a United Ireland, one and indivisible as she came from the hands of Almighty God.

The resolution was seconded by Dr. Morgan Lane. Ireland's claim to self-determination, he said, was a just claim according to every principle of justice and democracy. At the beginning of the great world war the Irish were led to believe that the principle of self-determination would be applied to all small nations. Yet, though that principle had been extended to the Czechs and Yugo-Slavs, it was not yet extended to Ireland. Ireland, for the sake of the principle of nationality, had refused to bow her neck to the yoke of a stranger. For 700 years Ireland had fought for her

national existence. She was still fighting, and would continue to fight till their liberty was achieved. No fair-minded man could justly refuse to Ireland the right to self-determination. Who was responsible for the tragic position of Ireland to-day? The British Government, not the Irish people. The present anomalous government of Ireland should be wiped out in favour of the self-government and self-determination that she was legitimately seeking to-day. No palliative would now suffice. Intolerance was foreign to the Irish nation, and under self-determination there would be no favoritism of class or creed. The dawn of Ireland's freedom was at hand; all fair-minded men already acclaimed it.

The motion was forcibly and humorously supported by Rev. Father O'Flynn, who said the Irish question was a question of justice and right, the justice and right that the civilised world had been fighting for during the past five years. The victory of the Allies had made the Irish question the question of the hour, for had they not declared that they were fighting to "make the world safe for democracy," and to bring about the downfall of Prussianism. But what had Ireland gained as an outcome of that victory? The Irish people to-day were treated in their own native land as outlaws and criminals. Lord Byron had said he described the Union of England and Ireland as the union of a shark and its prey. What De Valera wanted was that the free nations of the world to-day should recognise that an Irish Republic had been established by the overwhelming will of the Irish people. He wanted Ireland for the Irish. The application of the universal principle of self-determination was the only cure for the present condition of affairs in Ireland. Ireland to-day was young and vigorous, and self-reliant, determined no longer to be trampled on. Sinn Féin was no idle movement, but a policy inaugurated by men who represented the faith and brains of the Irish race.

The "Rand Daily Mail," of Johannesburg, of May 24th, containing a report of a meeting of a branch in Pretoria of the Transvaal Irish National Association, at which delegates were present from the parent body in Johannesburg. The air was cleared, says the paper, by a query addressed to the chairman, whether the Association stood for an Irish Republic, separation or Dominion Home Rule? The chairman replied they would labour to achieve self-determination for Ireland. They were not there to dictate a policy for Ireland, but to support any policy adopted by the majority of the people of Ireland, and that policy had been shown by the overwhelming returns of certain representatives at the last general election. Self-determination meant the determination of the people of Ireland. The chairman's views, or the views of any particular individual, did not matter. All that the people of the Irish Race outside of Ireland could say was that, whatever be the decision of the people of Ireland in Ireland, they would support it.

Mr. A. E. O'Flaherty (Johannesburg) proposed that "We Irishmen and Irishwomen, whether by birth or descent, assembled in Pretoria, affirm the right of the people of Ireland to choose their own form of Government and without interference from any other nation; we endorse Ireland's appeal to the nations for international recognition, and pledge our support to Ireland's chosen leader, E. de Valera."

During the course of his speech, Mr. O'Flaherty unfurled the Republican flag, which, he said, he had been asked to present to the branch on behalf of a lady. Messrs. Scanlan, Burgess, Beggs, and McDonald supported the resolution, which was carried with acclamation.

The chairman referred to the inscription in Dublin, of which the fourth anniversary was at hand; and touched on the shooting of the leaders, Pearse, Clarke, and McDonagh, to whose memory a silent vote was passed.

On Sunday last St. Patrick's Hall, Manchester, was packed by an enthusiastic gathering of Irishmen, who were addressed by Messrs. W. Sears, T.D., and Sean Milroy. Mr. Milroy, in the course of his speech, said they hoped to convert many Unionists, and the others would receive the education accorded to minorities in other countries. Mr. Sears said Sir James Greenwood appeared to be as ignorant of Canadian history as he was of Irish history, otherwise he would not be expounding the Partition Bill. British militarism originated on Canadian ground 80 years ago, and England tried partition and imposed shame Home Rule. The result was an Easter week rising, followed by executions, arrests, deportations, and the Mayor of Toronto had an Irishman related to that of Ald. Tom Kelly. And when the Greenwoods and Frenchs of that time failed Canadian secured what they fought for.

Among the remarkable results of the elections in the North-East corner are the capture of such Councils as Magherafelt (Derry) and Downpatrick (Down) from the Unionists, and the capture of such Councils as the County of many Sinn Féin men. In Antrim, the hub of Unionism, Mr. Louis J. Walsh (S.F.) has been returned at the head of the poll for the County Council. In another Antrim division Mr. John Clark (S.F.) was only defeated by a couple of votes. In the Shankill Division of Belfast, the former centre of Orange strength, Mr. M. Carroll (S.F.) has been returned at the head of the poll, and in the Falls Division, which Mr. Deakin retained at the last general election, Sinn Féin had a decisive victory, the result being the election of Messrs. Savage and McCullough (S.F.) and Mr. Kennedy (U.I.L.). Mr. Savage headed the poll with 2,305 votes.

Two days after the eighth verdict of murder—since the beginning of the year—again returned by a Coroner's Jury against members of the I.R.A., a Minister of the English Government stood up in the English House of Commons and said that "He was glad to say that the police had shot with extremely good effect; and he only hoped they would do it again." It is stated that immediately occurred before the English House of Commons echoed this statement, the victim was James Saunders, an ex-soldier who had fought for England. The same English Minister who made this statement, a quote uttered the falsehood that ex-service men were hounded out of Ireland by Sinn Féin. When ex-service men are shot in cold blood as poor Saunders was by officers of the English Government, the English House of Commons should be ashamed.

Some matters in dispute between bakers and van-drivers were last week referred to a Court presided over by the Lord Mayor of Cork (Alderman Terence McSwiney), and the parties concerned expressed their entire satisfaction at the findings of the Court.

Eight men were arrested in Kilkenny by Irish Volunteers last week in connection with the breaking of fences, gates, piers, and windows belonging to Protestant residents in the district of Curreen, near Castlecomer. On being charged before the Court, which was comprised of three judges and advocates for the prosecution and defence, seven of the prisoners pleaded guilty. Six of them were fined £1 each, and the other 25s., which they readily paid, at the same time expressing regret for the offence. The eighth prisoner pleaded not guilty. Evidence having been given on his behalf, the Court upheld his plea, and

dismissed him. The convicted men were severely reprimanded and cautioned against a repetition of the offence, and were taken by the President of the Court that the Volunteers were determined to protect the property of all citizens, regardless of class or creed.

Three cases were disposed of at a Volunteer Court held last week in the Town Hall, Callan. Two ex-soldiers were charged in connection with the theft of a gun from a farmer, while a third man was charged with stealing a bicycle. The prisoners were escorted by the Court by Volunteers, while the District Inspector and Head Constable of the R.I.C. looked on in open-eyed astonishment at the (to them) novel way of preserving law and order. The man who stole the gun was fined 20s., and ordered to leave the parish for 12 months. The other man, who purchased the stolen gun for 10s., was fined 40s., and ordered not to enter any part of the Callan parish for 12 months. The man paid the fines and promised to leave the parish. The man who was charged with stealing a bicycle was fined 20s., and ordered to leave the district for 6 months. He obeyed the order. The bicycle has been restored.

Three men charged last week before a Volunteer Court at Newbridge with the larceny of oats pleaded guilty. They were heavily fined, and were ordered to pay the owner the full value of the stolen goods. The accused were told that if they offended again they would not be allowed to reside in the district.

The police having refused to do duty at Barronstown (Tipperary) races on Wednesday last, Irish Volunteers wearing armlets marked "I.V." acted in their stead, and regulated the traffic in an admirable manner. A bookmaker who acted suspiciously, and left the enclosure hurriedly, was followed by Volunteers. The bookmaker's liabilities proved to be £67 12s., and he had only a few pounds to meet them. He stated that he had had a bet with a bookmaker on the course. The Volunteers escorted their prisoner to where the bookmaker was. The prisoner duly drew the money coming to him on his bet, and out of this he was able to pay all his liabilities. He then handed another bookmaker who would lend him the balance, but this bookmaker repudiated him. A third bookmaker whom he mentioned gave him the money. When all liabilities had been paid off the Volunteer officer in charge told him the rule, and that rule would have to be observed by all who came to Ireland. The bookmaker and his clerk were then ejected by the Volunteers from the enclosure. A young man who snatched and was making off with a small bag, was being paid by a bookmaker to a client was also apprehended by Volunteers. On searching their prisoner, the Volunteers found a gold watch in his possession, and are making inquiries as to its owner.

The Volunteers recently effected three arrests in connection with a robbery which occurred at Crossneen, Co. Carlow. Last week they were brought up for trial charged with the offence. A Volunteer officer was assigned to the defence. Two of the men pleaded guilty, and were fined 20s. each, and ordered to find work, or leave the district. The third was honourably acquitted. The Volunteers have appealed to the people to furnish evidence in such cases. They have also caused certain distressed houses in the Carlow district to close at the recognised time.

A quantity of goods stolen some time ago from the haberdashery shop of Mr. P. Whelan, Wexford was recently recovered and restored to the owner by Volunteers, with an intimation of regret that the case was not placed in their hands sooner.

A Sinn Féin Court at Philipstown (King's Co.) on Wednesday week dealt with a case arising out of a disputed ownership of land. The case was settled amicably, and the defendant undertook to refrain from interfering with the plaintiff's management of the farm in question.

A large number of cases, including wages claims, trespass, larceny, and assault were disposed of satisfactorily last week in Mullingar (South Sligo) by a Sinn Féin Arbitration Court. A man put forward in custody charged with the larceny of a bicycle was after a lot on bail to come up for judgment when called upon after he had pleaded guilty and given a promise to amend. The case was recovered. The protection of the court

was given to men who find their cattle driven. The owners of two farms agreed to surrender their lands and to leave the question of compensation in the hands of the Court.

Pending further inquiry, two men arrested by Volunteers in connection with the robbery of the mail car, running between Enniscorthy and Tollymore were remanded in custody. In connection with the recent raid on Knockivier (Co. Roscommon) Post Office, when £48 in cash, mostly old age pension money, was stolen, the Volunteers of that district effected arrests, and over £30 of the money has been returned to Mrs. McLoughlin, the postmistress. A shopkeeper in Boyle was raided recently when over £10 worth of goods were stolen. The stolen goods were recovered by the Volunteers and returned to the rightful owner.

In the Bantry district (West Cork) much activity has been displayed by the Volunteers in regard to the maintenance of law and order. Several cases of assault, trespass on lands, nuisances, etc., which, in the ordinary way, would have gone before the local Petty Sessions (English) Courts, have been brought before the Volunteer Courts and dealt with to the satisfaction of everybody concerned. On Wednesday week several cases which were listed for the Glangriff Petty Sessions (English) Court were withdrawn, and tried by an Irish tribunal. Petty Sessions business is rapidly declining in West Cork and elsewhere since the establishment of the Volunteer Courts.

Two ex-soldiers recently tried by a Volunteer tribunal in Co. Louth, on a charge of misappropriating £570 were acquitted. Three Volunteer officers heard the case. Only the accused, witnesses and a President were admitted to the Court. A Volunteer gave evidence to the effect that he and another Volunteer took the accused into custody in Dublin, and the accused immediately handed over the missing money. A sum of thirty pounds was also found on them. The advocate for the defence handed in a statement by the accused to the effect that they were to have handed over the money by appointment, but the person concerned failed to keep the appointment, and they proceeded to Dublin, as he had previously arranged to journey to Dublin with them. The advocate argued that there was no fraudulent intent on the part of the accused. The President said they desired to see justice meted out to the accused, particularly as they had served in the British Army and might, on that account, consider they were prejudiced before that tribunal. Such was not the case. The upholders of the Republican movement, as they demanded justice themselves, were prepared to do even-handed justice to all. They had not been proved to their satisfaction that the accused acted with fraudulent intent. As the money had been recovered, the Court would inflict no punishment, and would direct that the £30 found in the possession of accused be handed back to them.

Last week at a Volunteer Court in Tipperary a man was brought to trial charged with various offences, amongst them larceny of a bicycle from outside a shop in Liberty Street, Thurles; stealing a man's bicycle in Limerick; beating his father; stealing fire-arms, stealing mail-bags, and being what is known as "a stool pigeon." The prisoner pleaded guilty. A Volunteer officer appointed to the defence defended prisoner and made an able speech on his behalf. The President of the Court, in passing sentence, complimented the advocate on his brilliant defence, but for which the prisoner would have received a severer sentence. He warned the prisoner of the consequence if he failed to obey the Court's order, which directed him to leave Munster for a period of two years. Proceeding, the President said he was glad the property stolen by the accused had now been recovered almost completely and restored to its rightful owner. The accused was most important and valuable, particularly that found in the mails, which comprised original deeds belonging to a local lawyer, bank cheques, and commercial correspondence. These had all been restored. The accused promised to be locally reformed. The Court's sentence was to keep straight in future. He has now left the locality. At the trial armed Volunteers kept guard and accounts maintained a watch in the district.

The arrest and capture of the accused proved difficult. His father first

complained of his conduct to the police, but an action having been taken, the father lodged an information with the Volunteers. The accused got word of it, and was preparing for exit when the Volunteers intervened. Armed parties scoured the northern end of the district. Strangely enough 200 military and R.I.C. were at the same time, searching the district. The Volunteers of the district in quest of twenty local Volunteers, who were then leading the hunt after the accused. The military and police came from Tipperary, and returned again after seven hours' searching, but with nothing. At 3 a.m. the Volunteers tracked down their man.

Recently, the licensed house of Mr. P. Duane, Killybrack, near Loughrea was broken into and goods carried away. The matter was subsequently brought to the attention of the Volunteers, who proceeded at once to investigate the case, and on Sunday night four men were arrested in their beds at a late hour and taken by motor hindfolded to an unknown destination, where they were tried before a Volunteer Court. The accused pleaded guilty and were discharged on giving an undertaking to the court they would make restitution within 48 hours.

Volunteers were engaged at Kilmore (Co. Roscommon) on Sunday night in clearing out publichouses and patrolling the village. The local police force, who were confined to barracks, thinking, from the activities around, that a raid was about to be made on them, sent up very lights for help. Probably this will develop into an attack in the "Official List of Outrages."

Volunteers in Cloone, as in many other towns and villages in South Leitrim, are maintaining law and order. The licensed premises are carefully looked after, and non-bona-fide travellers are not permitted on them. Drunkenness is not allowed at the fairs, where the traffic is regulated by the Volunteers. The orders of the Volunteers are respected.

The "Clare Champion" says: "Frivolous and unjust claims were made to land in Co. Clare, and in some cases notices threatening summary eviction were served on the occupants. Sinn Féin Land Courts inquired into and dealt with the claims in a manner which has given general satisfaction. One complainant was an ex-member of the R.I.C., who had resigned after 14 years' service. He went to live with his wife, who has a farm of 35 acres. He was ordered to 'clear out'; his cattle were driven off the land, the herd intimidated, and a claim was made to the land. At the Sinn Féin tribunal his title was endorsed. A warning was issued to the parties making the claim, to the effect that if they refused to leave the land, a policeman's uniform he would receive the same hearing."

At one of the many Republican Criminal Courts now in session in North Clare, the following case was heard: "Tuesday week, a man was put on trial on a charge of larceny. When asked to plead the prisoner replied:

"I refuse to recognise the authority of this court."

The President—"That being so, will you kindly inform us which court you do recognise? We shall be pleased to hand you over immediately."

The prisoner, after a pause, said he would recognise the Republican Court, and pleaded guilty.

He was heavily fined, and ordered to release the stolen property. This was done, and he was released.

The "Irish Bulletin" of Thursday (June 3rd) devoted its entire issue to a summary of the activities of the Irish Volunteers and the Land and Criminal Courts in dealing with the cases of twenty-one counties from 15th April to June 2nd. Nearly a hundred cases have been dealt with by these Irish tribunals since they were established. There is likely to be a further boom in the white-glove industry until the end of the year, when England's Judges go on their long, long vacation!

At the monthly meeting of the Ennis-terry Urban Council on Wednesday week, it was unanimously decided to elect to the Commandant of the local Volunteer Corps to supply petrol for the preservation of law and order in the town.

Many other cases have been brought before Irish tribunals during the past week, and several prisoners are detained in different parts of the county pending trial.

During the Poor Law and County Council Elections the Volunteers in different parts of the county preserved that law and order which Dublin Castle pressmen are always telling us it is the express duty of the R.I.C. to preserve. However, as the R.I.C. seem to be so busy attending to their other duties—so eloquently alluded to last week by Mr. Walter Long in Westminster—they have no time to look after the Constitutional side of things!

The "Drogheda Independent" of Saturday, 29th May, published the following:—

LETTER TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,
On the night of Sunday, 16th inst., my house was raided by a band of armed men, and a quantity of valuable silver and other articles stolen, as well as great damage done to furniture, pictures, etc., and shots fired in many of the rooms. I was away from home at the time, and my house was occupied by two servants, who were forced to show the raiders round the house. Two days afterwards I was informed that the Irish National Volunteers had taken the matter up, and that they would obtain information as to where the stolen property was and return it to me. They have been as good as their word and to my knowledge, have not spared themselves any trouble ever since. At time of writing I have recovered, through them, nearly all the stolen articles. I wish to publicly thank the Irish Volunteers for their action, and to pay them a justly deserved tribute for their method of conducting their work. I understand that they have traced numerous small raids that have taken place in this neighbourhood to this same gang, whom they have arrested to a man. Please goodness, we will hear of no more outrages, whether agrarian or otherwise, now that the Volunteers have taken the field.

G. DE STACPOOLE (Captain).

Tobertynny, Enfield, Co. Meath.
The robbery referred to by Captain Stacpoole was reported in the "Official records of outrages," as was the arrests of the guilty parties by Irish Volunteers, and probably the above letter will find its way as another "outage" into General Greenwood's or General Macready's editorial sanctum in Dublin Castle.

The English Post Office has given the six months' notice to terminate the contract for the transmission of the mails between Ireland and England via Dunleary and Holyhead. This action is preliminary to depriving the City of Dublin Steampacket Company of the carriage of the mails. The next step in the process of the transfer of the mails to an English Railway Company. This step is the last in the policy of absorption and destruction of all Irish-owned shipping. The cargo service of the City of Dublin Steamship Co. has already been sold to the English Shipping Combine. With the transfer of the mail service, which now appears inevitable, the last Irish-owned shipping service sailing out of Belfast, Dublin, or Cork will have disappeared from the Channel. The trade of the Irish Sea has become an English monopoly, both for mails and cargo.

One result of this monopoly is the recent rise of fifty per cent. in the Channel freights. Already the cost of sending goods from London to Dublin has become so great that in one case an importer of furniture, who arranged for test consignments of the same quantity, discovered that it costs 25 per cent. more to carry chairs from London than from New York by direct steamer. The tendency of this English monopoly of the Channel shipping trade is to divert trade from London to New York, as the rate of exchange, though unfavourable, is more than met by the lower cost of transmission.

While the situation is favourable for the importer of American goods, in spite of the adverse exchange, it follows that it is still more favourable for the exporter who is able to place Irish goods in the States against American dollars. Openings which exist for Irish exporters are indicated by Mr. J. L. Fawcett, Writing from New York to the Dublin Industrial Development Association, he pointed out that a large market exists in America for granite blocks for paving, for which high prices are paid, and that the rate of exchange affords Irish quarry-owners a decided advantage at present, while the large number of Irish-Americans connected with the building industry in the United States ensures an exceptionally favourable consideration for any offers

made. If Ireland can offer granite blocks of suitable quality, suitably dressed, at a price, delivered, well within the limit of 120 dollars per 1,000, Mr. Fawcett advises that business would seem to be possible. He added that Messrs. Moore and McCurran, Inc., would offer especially favourable freight rates, etc., to encourage the trade. A sample of the stone at present used and a list of pending contracts were being forwarded to an Irish trading firm whose name and address will be supplied to persons interested.

Mr. Fawcett sent considerable correspondence dealing with the possibility of securing adequate supplies of American Portland cement delivered c.i.f. at competitive prices in Ireland. Irish which are in a position to quote a suitable price are just at the moment held up by the transport difficulties prevailing in the United States, but express themselves anxious to be put in touch with importers when the present abnormal circumstances have come to an end. Further correspondence dealing with the market in America for Carrigean moss and another substance known as sea moss, used for stuffing in upholstery, the state of the market as regards lace imports and the fraudulent misrepresentation of non-irish made lace and crochet as Irish and a reference to the manufacture of paper pulp from seaweed in Japan, which Mr. Fawcett advises is worthy of investigation by Irish paper makers, was also read and dealt with by the ss. Milwaukee Bridge is due in Dublin for a cargo to New York about 14th inst.

The question of Spanish fruit trade is engaging the attention of the Council of the Dublin D.A. The Dublin Port and Docks Board have been invited to provide berthing facilities for fruit steamers arriving from Spain, and possibly from other countries. There are large imports of oranges, lemons, grapes, nuts, figs, and dried fruits, as well as onions, from the Mediterranean. Ireland buys annually some thirty to forty thousand tons of fruit, a quantity which would guarantee a direct Mediterranean service. In return for fruit, Ireland could ship other fruit, such as apples when in season, and also potatoes, for which there is a demand in Spain.

Some efforts have been already made to open up direct trade, and we find that in February three hundred and seventy-six tons of fruit were imported direct from Spain, all to Belfast. In March one hundred and seventy-two tons were imported from Spain to Belfast. In April there were no direct imports, but 1,621 tons were imported via Liverpool mainly. If this quantity, exactly 1,620 tons came into the port of Dublin. These figures do not include vegetables such as onions, of which large quantities are imported in season.

The only difficulty which exists in the way of a direct trade between Dublin and Spain is the provision of suitable berthing and handling facilities, so that the market can be dealt with rapidly and the cargo cleared on arrival. There is a prospect that these difficulties will be overcome with the assistance of the Port and Docks Board. In addition to berthing places, it is necessary to have auction rooms in the vicinity of the port, so that the fruit cargoes can be disposed of rapidly and the loss by deterioration, so heavy in the trade, can be avoided by prompt handling.

P. Marks writes:—Regarding the matter of gramophone records of Irish songs, and such like, those interested will be able to procure such from America by communicating with Mr. Shanley, St. Benedict's Rectory, New York. Gramophone records of the "Soldier's Song" may be also obtained from the address which he gave, and which, for the nonce, I will remember. Records for the gramophone type of talking-machines were the only ones procurable till some time ago. Now the disc record may be obtained.

The same correspondent writes:—There came an appeal for help for the dependents of the martyrs of Milltown-Malahy, Kilmihil, etc., and for the dependents of the martyr-confessors of Mountjoy, Scrubbs, Galway, etc. It was the fourth appeal of the very short time, yet it was one that could not be ignored. The hunger-strike suggested a thirst-strike, and a three-weeks' strike against intoxicating liquor was declared. The money saved goes to the fund.

A Dublin tobaccoist writes to us:—To stand behind a tobaccoist counter in Dublin to-day (or perhaps in any other part of Ireland), retailing

Flax Growing

(From "Leabhar na h-Éireann," 1909).

Flax is a crop which has played an important part in Irish agriculture as far back as the memory of man can go. It was encouraged by the old Irish chieftains. In the middle of the 17th century a fresh impetus was given to the industry by the immigration of Dutch and French Huguenots. In the 18th century the Irish Parliament carefully fostered the interests of the flax trade and established a linen board for the purpose, but shortly after the consummation of the Union all grants for the trade were suspended and growers were left to do as well as they could until the establishment of the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland.

Before 1860, the acreage under flax was usually about 120,000 acres. It rose in 1864 to 301,693 acres. Since that date, however, it has contracted until it reached in 1898 the lowest point, 34,469 acres. In 1907, 59,565 acres were under cultivation, in 1908 the amount was a little over 44,000 acres, and 1909 may be expected to show a further substantial reduction.

Not only has there been a decline in acreage, but also there has been a decline in quality. This, however, has been the case also in Russia, France, Belgium, and in the Netherlands.

As to the cause of this depreciation, it is difficult to assign a reason. Some say that it is due to inferior seed. Farmers in Ireland used to sow their own seed, but now it is imported, or is supposed to be imported, entirely from Russia and Holland. In Russia the seed is huckstered about like any other dealer to dealer, a method which is inimical to the best interests of the Irish grower. From Holland and Belgium feeding flax seed is often exported for sowing flax seed; in 1908, even the Department of Agriculture was deceived by having feeding seed passed off on them as sowing seed, and many farmers were seriously injured thereby. There is no doubt that this question of seed supply merits a closer attention than it has hitherto received, and here again co-operation among growers is necessary. The grower should be careful selection and sowing again only from selected stalks. This individual farmers are unable to do for themselves, as it is not remunerative, and if the flax is grown for seed the fibre will not be good. There is no doubt that the land has been flaxed out, and that it needs a rest from flax. Were this true, then flax in Cork or Mayo should be much better than flax in Ulster, but it is not. A prominent spinner gave it to me as his opinion that the application of the potato disease, nematode, had done much to deteriorate the quality of the flax, but this I do not believe to be a probable cause. More likely is the cause attributed by a well-known flax buyer. He says that the greatest decline in quality has taken place in the grass-seed saving districts, and that in districts where the grass seed is not saved, such as Strabane, the quality has rather improved. Possibly, however, the undoubted deterioration in quality is not due to any one cause, but to many.

Flax is a crop which requires the closest attention from the moment of buying the seed until the time that it is ready for the market. Unless the land is carefully prepared for it, the results will not be satisfactory. The consequence of this care is that flax cultivation makes for good farming, and it will be found that the best farmers in Ireland are usually in flax-growing districts.

Generally speaking, there are two rotations for flax—one called the "Awell Lee," usually adopted on heavy, sharp soils which are pretty free from weeds, and the other the "Barley Leave," which is usual on light, rich soils. In the former, the flax follows the lea oats, and in the latter it is sown out with grass and clover.

Recent experience has shown that the application to the land, either in winter or at the time of sowing, of manure of polish or of kaint has a beneficial effect. Usually 5 cwt. of the latter or 11 cwt. of the former is employed to the acre.

The right moment for pulling flax must be very carefully judged, and the pulling itself must be very skilfully done, otherwise the ends of the flax will be uneven, a defect which leads afterwards to great waste.

The flax, when pulled, is then steeped in water, and this, perhaps, is

the most crucial part of the whole process. It must be steeped just the right length of time, neither too long nor too little. If too long, it will be soft and its commercial value greatly lessened, and if too little, it will be very difficult to clean. Also, the kind of water is very important. There should be a clay bottom; a gravel bottom will never be satisfactory. It is really the nature of the water which makes or mars the reputation of a district for flax. Thus, Coleraine has a superior reputation for that of Strabane. In Ireland that of Killybegs stands highest, and the River Lys in Belgium greatly contributes to place the Courtrai flax the highest in the world.

This steeping or retting process is a most interesting triumph for natural bacteriological processes as against artificial processes, and it tends to strengthen disbelief in the efficacy of organic chemistry. Nearly every year produces a crop of inventors who bring forth a substitute for the retting and the subsequent process of scutching, but all these have failed, and in my opinion will continue to fail, just as artificial processes for producing diamonds have failed. Flax has been retted and scutched artificially, but the product, in every instance, has been commercial failure, because the artificial process has also taken the oiliness out of the fibre.

After the flax has been retted, it is spread or gaited to enable it to dry. When dried, it is taken to the scutch mill, where it is treated with beaters to separate the woody core from the fibre. First the flax is put through rollers which break the woody core, and then the flax is beaten by a number of wooden blades attached to a wheel.

Scutching a considerable number of improvers have taken place. At one time the flax used to be rolled with stones, and a girl would beat the flax with a kind of stick called a wiper, by which means she would succeed in treating about a stone a day. Needless to say, this process is too slow and costly to be remunerative. By this process there was no by-product, as is the case with the mill process, by which there is a valuable by-product called tow. This product has given rise to a great grievance, inasmuch as the tow belonged to the proprietor of the mill, while the flax belonged to the grower, causing the latter, rightly or wrongly, to imagine that the proprietor made it his object to produce as much tow as possible. I believe that in most cases this charge is unjust, but nevertheless the system is wrong under which such a charge can be brought. In co-operative mills there is no room for such a charge, since the proprietors and the growers are identical.

Owing in a large measure to the diversity of interest between the growers and the proprietors, many complaints were made by the growers as to the quality of the scutching, and a special grievance was that the hands employed in the mill were paid by piece instead of by the time, a practice, it was alleged, which urged the workers to rush their work in order to make a living wage, regardless of whether the flax was properly cleaned or not. This led the L.A.O.S. to organise flax growers in various parts of the country into co-operative flax societies. These societies have effected much good, as not only has the scutching been improved, but also the industry generally has gained by bringing growers together to discuss their industry. Many of these societies are in the nature of co-operative banks, advancing money to their members for reproductive purposes. Two of these societies have put up entirely new mills, and that of the Castleblayney Co-operative Flax Society in Co. Donegal is the last word in Irish scutching plant.

Many persons have advocated the Belgian and Dutch systems of buying the flax on foot or in straw from the grower. Such a system is possible in Belgium and Holland, where the soil is fairly uniform. In Ireland, however, the soil is anything but uniform, and often in the one field, where the same seed has been used and the same treatment has been employed, it is no uncommon experience to have several varieties of flax. It is, therefore, not easy to gauge approximately the value of Irish flax except by detailed examination. It has been proved conclusively that the Irish system of treating Irish flax pays best.

The seasons of 1907-8 and 1908-9 have been disastrous for the grower owing to the bad season in 1907; the flax, on the whole, was of inferior quality, and as the seed was also saved under difficult conditions in 1908 has proved to be worse again. In addition

to this the flax-spinning industry, which was experiencing an unprecedented boom, has been under a great cloud since the American financial crisis. All these circumstances have accentuated the market difficulty. The L.A.O.S. stands for co-operation in this matter, and impresses upon the grower the necessity for combination. With that end in view they established a store in Belfast, as dealers in the country had cornered districts, thus forcing the grower to sell at a disadvantage. This store is only a stepping-stone, and more effective means must be taken. Still the store has broken through country rings, and that much is an advantage. The L.A.O.S. has brought the growers together, and is urging upon them the necessity of combining to work out their own salvation. It is, in fact, by the growers themselves that anything that is to be effective must be done. Governments cannot do anything for them in this direction, and it is on this marketing question that the whole future of the Irish flax-growing industry depends.

CONCILIATION.

(Continued from page 3.)

Armed Assault:—The windows of the premises of Mr. J. D. O'Connell, Solicitor, and Mr. Eamonn O'Connor, Nelson Street, Tralee, Co. Kerry, were smashed in by police during the night. Both are well-known local Republicans. Mr. O'Connor having just been released from jail on hunger-strike.

The plate glass window of the residence of Mr. Thomas Dennehy, of the same town, was also broken in by police. Mr. Dennehy has recently been elected member of the Tralee Urban Council in the Sinn Féin interest.

Murder:—Mr. Aidan Redmond, Cadogan Road, Freetown, Dublin, died in the Mater Hospital, Dublin, from appendicitis following on ten days' hunger-strike in Mountjoy jail.

TUESDAY, MAY 11th, 1920.

Raids:—At Timoleague, Co. Cork, military and police raided upwards of 70 private houses.

In the course of a military swoop on Gould's Cross, Co. Tipperary, police and military forcibly entered and raided all the farmers' houses in the locality. In all, about 140 houses were broken into and searched.

Arrests:—A man whose name has not transpired was arrested on the streets of Dublin on a charge of being "abroad" between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m. without the permission of the British Military Authorities.

Sentences:—Messrs. Roger Mannion, John Cannon, Thomas Collins, James Burke, Michael O'Neill and Thomas Graham were sentenced to two months' imprisonment each in a charge of "unlawful assembly" in connection with land agitation.

Armed Assault:—Mr. Thomas Garvey, a teacher of Irish, residing at The Milestone, Co. Tipperary, was attacked by police who fired their rifles at him. Mr. Garvey managed to escape by taking refuge in a house. This is the second attempt which has recently been made by police on his life.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12th 1920.

Raids:—Police and military forcibly entered and raided 36 private houses at Santry, Co. Dublin.

Arrests:—Eight men, whose names did not appear in the Press, were arrested at Dunmore, Co. Galway, on a charge of "unlawful assembly" in connection with land agitation.

At Athlone, Co. Westmeath, Messrs. P. O'Connell, Thomas Murray, John Ledwith and Brian Costello were arrested on the same charge.

Nine persons were arrested on the streets of Dublin on a charge of being "abroad" between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m. without the permission of the British Military Authorities.

Murder:—During the inquiry into the circumstances of the death of Mr. John Breen, of Kilmihill, Co. Clare, who was shot dead by police on April 18th, the solicitor for the next-of-kin stated that he was unable to produce detailed evidence of the tragedy, as

since it occurred police and military had gone through the town threatening the lives of townspeople who intended to give evidence.

Mr. John McMahon, Greengrove, Kilmihill, and Mr. T. Fitzpatrick, swore that they were threatened by British soldiers that if they gave evidence at the inquest they would be shot dead.

Several other witnesses described the state of military and police terrorism which existed in the district before and since John Breen was shot. Mr. Denis Breen, publican, stated that two months previous to the shooting he heard a policeman say, "The first chance I get at John Breen I will shoot him dead."

Mr. Michael Breen, father of the deceased, stated that when he heard the shots he came out of his house and saw his son lying on the ground. He ran to him, but he was ordered back into his house by police, who threatened that if he did not go back they would "blow his brains out, too."

THURSDAY, MAY 13th, 1920.

Raids:—Military and police raided upwards of eighty farmers' houses at Hollyford, Co. Tipperary.

At Ellis, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick, police and military raided upwards of 40 private houses, which they forcibly entered and searched.

Armed Assault:—Police stationed at Cork invaded the streets in the dead of the night, firing their rifles at the windows of shops and residences. The firing extended over a wide area and lasted for some hours. No provocation was given them.

Murder:—At the inquest on the body of Mr. John Breen, who was killed by police at Kilmihill, Co. Clare, the Coroner's Jury found

"That John Breen died from shock and hurt caused by a bullet wound inflicted by Constable Martin, while John Breen was fighting for the freedom of his country."

The Jury added:—
"From the evidence before us we desire to say that the present system of government in Ireland is as barbarous and uncivilised as the authority on which that government is founded is immoral and unjust, and that that government is, and it always has been, destructive of material prosperity and intellectual development. The way—the only way to secure peace and prosperity to Ireland is to allow the Irish people to choose their own form of government. We respectfully ask the civilised nations of the world to aid us in this choice."

(To be Continued.)

Irish Labour Party and Trade Union Congress

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE.

TRANSPORT OF WAR MUNITIONS.—APPEAL FOR FUNDS.

THE decision of the Workers at the Docks and on the railways to refuse to handle munitions of war imported from England for use by the Army of Occupation in pursuance of the new offensive against the Irish nation has the whole-hearted moral support of all loyal Irishmen.

As a result of this decision several hundreds of men have already for over a week been deprived of employment at their ordinary occupation, that is, the transport of commercial traffic, by the London and North Western Railway steamers, which sail from the North Wall.

It is, therefore, incumbent upon all of us that on behalf of the whole nation, that these men have been willing to risk their means of livelihood, it is but an accident that they should have been on duty at the point where action was called for. The duty of refusing to become accessories in the crime of "Dying" their kith and kin might have devolved, instead of upon these men, upon any other body of citizens loyal to their country's cause.

It is, therefore, incumbent upon all of us that our moral support should be supplemented immediately by generous financial support, so that they and their wives and families shall not be made to shoulder an undue share of the burden which all are equally called upon to bear.

We appeal to all Trade Unionists and to the Irish people in general to subscribe liberally to the fund which is now open to ensure that the men who have stood in the breach shall be generously provided for.

All remittances should be sent to the Treasurer (Thomas Johnson), 22 Lower Abbey Street, Dublin, marked, "Munitions of War."

On behalf of the National Executive,

THOMAS FARREN, Chairman. WM. O'BRIEN, Secretary.

J. C. O'CONNOR, Vice-Chairman. THOMAS JOHNSON, Treas. and Acting Sec.

22 Lower Abbey Street, Dublin, June 1st, 1920.

peile mór na n-ádhéad.

Óireáchtas

1920.

1 mbaile áda cliait

luznara 120 lá 30 luznara 720 lá.

Croke Park, University College, Mansion House, Rotunda.

60 comórtas.

Cleasa lú. 10mánuceact. Peil. Camós.

Óráimurde. Ceol. Rinnce.

ENTRIES CLOSE JUNE 20th.

Céitúte. Túrur.

Art Exhibition. :: All Ireland Athletic Sports

Hurling and Football Contests.

BAND COMPETITIONS

ÁRD-PEIS MÓR.

A leicéir ó Óireáchtas n' raid f'or ann!

Sac eolair ó'n Rúnaire,

25 Ceapnós páipail, Ád Cliait.

WHY SUPPORT THE FOREIGNER?

YOU CAN OBTAIN

A WATERPOOF MADE IN IRELAND

BETTER THAN MANY AND EQUAL TO ANY.

Support Home Industries and Stop Emigration

FRANCIS CASEY & SONS,

CHARLEMONT, MOY, CO. TYRONE.

We require pioneers in the sugar industry such as the Dyers and the O'neals, and scientists like Dr. G. A. Goessmann, the German who conducted the first scientific experiments on sugar-beet culture at the Massachusetts Agricultural College in 1874.

Ireland must, through necessity, immediately set about producing her own sugar, and in this industry she will have an inexhaustible supply of practical information from America.

J. A. Smyth.

Truth about the Boyne

[The following account of the Battle of the Boyne is the most accurate account in existence.]

On the 6th February, 1685, Charles the Second closed a life the chronicles of which may be searched in vain for a notable act of goodness, wisdom, valour, or virtue. On his death-bed he openly professed the faith which, for years past, if not at times, he had secretly believed in, but dared not publicly to avow. The man, however, on whom now devolved the triple crown of Scotland, England, and Ireland—Charles's brother, James, Duke of York—was one who had neither dissembled nor concealed his religious convictions. He was a sincere Catholic, and had endured much of trouble and persecution in consequence of his profession of that faith. He was married to the young and beautiful Princess Mary of Modena, an ardent Catholic like himself, and the ultra Protestant party witnessed his accession to the throne with unguessed chagrin and sullen discontent.

The Character of James.

All writers have agreed in attributing to James the Second a disregard of the plainest dictates of prudence, if not of the plainest limits of legality, in the measures he adopted for the accomplishment of his purpose unquestionably equitable, laudable, and beneficent—namely, the abolition of proscription and persecution for conscience' sake, and the establishment of religious freedom and equality. It may be said, and with perfect truth, that though this was as sound a policy as any could be, for the end he aimed at was so utterly opposed to the will of the English people, so inconsistent with "vested interests" throughout all three kingdoms, that it was out of all possibility for him to have succeeded, whether he were politic or cautious, or straightforward, arbitrary, or rash. For the English nation was too strongly bent on thorough persecution, to be barred in its course, or diverted into tolerance or humanity by the example of King or queen; and already the English people had made it plain that no man should be a ruler over them who would not be of their mind on this subject. But James's conduct rendered his overthrow simply inevitable. Before he was well seated on the throne, he had precipitated conflicts with the judges, the bishops, and the parliament; the point of contention, to be sure, being mainly his resolution of granting freedom of conscience to all creeds. It was in Ireland, however, that this startling programme evoked the wildest sensations of alarm on the one hand, and rejoicing on the other; and it was there that, inevitably, owing to the vast preponderance of the Catholic population, relative equity appeared to the Protestant eye as absolute Catholic dominance. Two Catholic judges and one Protestant may have been even short of the Catholic proportion; yet the Protestant colony would not look at the question in this way at all, and they called it intolerable Popish ascendancy. James had selected for the carrying out of his views in Ireland a man whose faults greatly resembled his own, Richard Talbot, subsequently Earl and Duke of Tyrconnell. He was devotedly attached to the king; a courtier, not a statesman; rash, vain, self-willed; a faithful, loyal friend, but a famous man to lose a kingdom with.

If the Irish Catholics had indulged in hopes on the accession successively of James's grandfather, father, and brother, what may have been their feelings now? Here, surely, there was no room for mistake or doubt. A king

resolved to befriended them was on the throne! The land burst forth into universal rejoicing. Out from hiding places in cellar and garret, cavern and fastness, came hunted prelate and priest, the ermitage and the stole, the chalice and the patten; and once more in the open day and in the public churches, the ancient rites were seen. The people, awakened as if from a long trance of sorrow, leaved with a new life, and with faces all beaming and radiant went in crowds chanting songs of joy and gratitude. One after one, the barriers of exclusion were laid low, and the bulk of the population admitted to equal rights with the colonist-Protestants. In fine, all men were declared equal in the eye of the law, irrespective of creed or race; an utter reversion of the previous system, which constituted the "colony" the jailers of the fettered nation.

Ireland and England accordingly seethed with Protestant disaffection, but there was an idea that the king would die without legitimate male issue,† and so the general resolution seemed to be that in a few years all would be right, and these abominable ideas of religious tolerance swept away once more. To the consternation and dismay of the anti-tolerance party, however, a son was born to James in June, 1688. There was no standing this. It was the signal for revolt!

On this occasion no native insurrection initiated the revolution. In this crisis of their history—this moment in which was moulded and laid down the basis of the without legitimate male issue, it exists to our own time—the English nation asserted by precept and practice the truly singular doctrine, that even for the purpose of overthrowing a legitimate native sovereign, conspiring malcontents might not wisely in depending upon "foreign emissaries" to come and begin the work—and complete it, too! So they invited the Dutch, and the Danes, and the Swedes, and the French Calvinists—and indeed, for that matter, foreign emissaries from every country or any country who would aid them—to come and help them in their rebellion against their king. To the Stadtholder of Holland, William Prince of Orange, they offered the throne, having ascertained that he would accept it without any qualms on the ground that the king to be beheld or driven away was at once his own uncle and father-in-law.

The Character of William.

This remarkable man has been greatly misunderstood, owing to the fact of his name being made the shibboleth of a faction whose sanguinary fanaticism and repudiation of all law and order was as much a part of his character as his name. William Henry Prince of Orange was now in his thirty-seventh year. An impartial and discriminating Catholic historian justly describes him to us as fearless of danger, patient, and devoted to his country as a soldier than a statesman, indifferent in religion, and personally adverse to persecution for conscience' sake, his great and almost his only public passion being the humiliation of France through the instrumentality of a European coalition. In the great struggle against French preponderance on the Continent then being waged by the League of Augsburg, William was on the same side with the rulers of Austria, Germany, and Spain, and even with Louis XIV. On the other hand, being altogether attached to France. In his designs on the English throne, however, the Dutch Prince practised the grossest deceit on his confederates of the League, protesting to them that he was coming to England solely to compose in a friendly way a domestic quarrel, one of the results of which would be to detach James from the side of France and add England to the League. By means of this duplicity he was able to bring to the aid of his English schemes men, money, and material contributed for League purposes by his Continental colleagues. On the 5th of November, 1688, William landed at Torbay in Devonshire. He brought with him a fleet of twenty-five men-of-war, twenty-five frigates, twenty-five fire-ships, and about four hundred transports, conveying in all about fifteen thousand men. If the royal army could have been relied upon, James might easily have disposed of these invaders, or "liberators"; but the army went over wholesale to the "foreign emissaries." Thus finding himself surrounded by treason, and having the fate of his hapless father in remembrance, James took refuge in France, where he arrived on 25th December, 1688; the Queen and infant Prince of Wales,

much to the rage of the rebels, having been safely conveyed thither some short time previously. The revolutionary party affected to consider this escape of the king an abdication, the theory being that by not waiting to be beheld he had forfeited the throne.

Ireland and James.

England and Scotland unmistakably declared for the revolution. Ireland was unquestionably—indeed enthusiastically—declared for the king; any other course would be impossible to a people amongst whom ingratitude has been laid infamous, and against whom want of chivalry or generosity has never been alleged. In proportion as the Catholic population expressed their sympathy with the king, the "colony" Protestants and Cromwellian garrison manifested their adhesion to the rebel cause, and began to flock from all sides into the strong places of Ulster, bringing with them their arms and ammunition. Tyrconnell, who had vainly endeavoured to call in the Government arms in their hands (as militia), now commissioned several of the Catholic nobility and gentry to raise regiments of more certain loyalty for the king's service. Of recruits there was no lack, but of the use of arms or knowledge of drill or discipline, these recruits knew absolutely nothing; and of arms, or equipments, or of war materiel, especially of cannon—Tyrconnell found himself almost entirely destitute. The malcontents, on the other hand, constituted that class which for at least forty years past had enjoyed by law the sole right to possess arms, and from childhood, of necessity, been trained to use them. The royalist force which the Viceroy sent to occupy Derry (a Catholic regiment newly raised by Lord Antrim), incredible as it may appear, had for the greater part no better arms than clubs and sticks. It is not greatly to be wondered at that the Protestant citizens—amongst whom, as well as throughout all the Protestant districts in Ireland, anonymous letters had been circulated, giving out an "intended Popish massacre"—all the Protestants on the 9th December—feared to admit such a gathering within their walls. The impression made by the report of the intended massacre, and the contempt naturally entertained for James's cause as a faction, were, as a matter of fact, the chief incentives to the "closing of the gates of Derry," which event we may set down as the formal inauguration of the rebellion in Ireland.

Eighteen months afterwards, two armies stood face to face on the banks of the Boyne. King James and Prince William for the first time were to contest in person the issues between them. The interval had not been without its events. In England the revolution encountered no opposition, and the king was free to bring against Ireland and Scotland the full strength of his British levies, as well as of his foreign auxiliaries. Ireland, Tyrconnell was quite sanguine of holding for King James even though; and the worst England should expect; and to arrive at the full enthusiasm of the devoted Gaels—may possibly, to bring back to their allegiance the rebellious Ulster Protestants, he urged the king to come to Ireland and assume in person the direction of the war. On the other hand, France concurred in those views, and a squadron was prepared at Brest to carry the fugitive back to his dominions. Accompanied by his natural sons, the Duke of Berwick and the Grand Prior Fitzjames, by Lieutenant-Generals de Rosen and de Maumont, Majors-General de Persignan and de Lery (or Geraldine), about a hundred officers of all ranks, and one thousand two hundred veterans, James sailed from Brest with a fleet of thirty vessels, and landed at Kinsale on the 12th day of March (old style). His reception by the southern population was enthusiastic in the extreme. From Kinsale to Cork, from Cork to Dublin, his progress was accompanied by the most brilliant dances, by Latin orations, loyal addresses, and all the demonstrations with which a popular favourite can be welcomed. Nothing was remembered that so easily pacified people but his great mistakes, and his steady fidelity to his and their religion. The royal entry into Dublin was the crowning pageant of his delusive restoration. With the tact and taste for such demonstrations hereditary in the citizens, the trades and arts were marshalled before him. Two venerable harpers played on their national instruments near the gate by which he entered; a number of religious in their robes, with a huge cross at their heads,

chanted as they went; forty young girls, dressed in white, danced the Rince Fada, scattering flowers as they danced. The Earl of Tyrconnell, lately raised to a dukedom, the judges, the mayor and corporation, completed the procession, which marched over newly-sanded streets, beneath arches of evergreens, and windows hung with 'tapestry and cloth of Arras.' But, of all the incidents of that striking ceremonial, nothing more powerfully impressed the popular imagination than the green flag floating from the mainmast of the Castle, bearing the significant inscription: "Now or never—now and forever."

(To be Continued.)

The Port of Dublin

In the year 1676, one Henry Howard petitioned the Lord Lieutenant for a patent to set up a Ballast Office. The petition was opposed by the Lord Mayor and citizens on the ground that the Charter of King John gave to them the strand of the river, and they asked for permission to establish one themselves, the profits of which were to be applied to the maintenance of the intended King's Hospital (Blue Coat School). Both petitions were treated with indifference (a not unusual occurrence in Ireland) by the person to whom they were addressed, and the matter dropped.

In 1698, the Corporation again appealed, as the river was becoming choked up. On receiving this petition the heads of a Bill were prepared and transmitted to London, where it was stopped, it was alleged, by some persons who endeavoured to get a grant from the Admiralty for the benefit of the Chest at Chatham, or by some jealousy respecting the Admiralty Jurisdiction of the Port of Dublin, the Lord Mayor being Admiral of Dublin, of which the Lord High Admiral of England claimed to be supreme. The cause of this jealousy disappeared in 1708, for the city had promised privately Prince George of Denmark, then Lord High Admiral of England, an annual tribute of "one hundred yards of best Holland duck sail cloth, which shall be made in the realm of Ireland," which was regularly sent to London.

On one occasion it was omitted, but immediately demanded, and the Corporation passed a resolution to send it more punctually in future.

On June, 1707, an Act was passed to create a Ballast Office to take charge of the Port. The first step for improvement appears to have been the employing of lighters the following year to cut a new and more direct channel of about 100 yards wide, and stop up the old one. About the same time the enclosing of the ground at the south side of the river, now Sir John Rogerson's Quay, was commenced.

The next work undertaken by this body was the building of a lighthouse, and the great South Wall was begun, but the latter was unfinished for lack of funds.

In 1718, the merchants of Dublin offered to contribute more liberally towards the cost of such works, provided the control of the Port was placed in a less changeable body, and of those who were more closely connected with and interested in the maritime commerce of the city. It was, however, not until 1786 that an Act of the Legislature was passed, after considerable opposition, which transferred all powers relative to the river Liffey, the Bay and Harbour of Dublin, together with the regulation of the Pilotage of the Port, to a new Corporation to be composed of the Lord Mayor and Sheriffs, of three Aldermen elected by and of that Board, and of seventeen other persons named in the Act. This new body was denominated "The Corporation for Preserving and Improving the Port of Dublin." To enable them to proceed with the work of building the South Wall, they were empowered to receive the following rates from all vessels coming to the Port of Dublin:—

Foreigners	... 1 6 per ton;
Natives	... 0 9 "
Colliers and Coasters	... 0 6 "

The element of production will be observed in the above rates.

Besides this, every vessel was obliged to take all its ballast, which was raised from the bed of the river and for which—

Foreigners paid	... 2 6 per ton.
Natives	... 1 8 "

Thus, as well as being an accommodation to shipping, it was a source of revenue, for the sale of the ballast realised £2,000 per annum. In addition to the above rates, 6d. per ton was charged for loading it. The cost of dredging the river was reduced to a low figure, and from 1,500 to 2,000 tons of sand were raised weekly.

The amount of tonnage entering the Port for ten years previous to 1786 was—

Foreign	... 15,983 Tons.
British	... 232,600 "

The figures for native shipping are not given, but ten years after 1786 show—

Foreign	... 167,489 Tons.
British	... 1,236,711 "
Native	... 1,021,878 "

This includes Irish coasters. The present state of the native shipping cannot be gleaned from the Port and Docks return, since the Board is fastidious in not admitting the work of the British by disguising the figures. Up to the year 1823 the amount of native tonnage was shown, but in that year a Treasury minute ordered that the distinction should be between foreign and the figures placed with those given for coasters, and the old game is played of keeping us in ignorance of our true position, and while statistical knowledge is withheld from us we will not seek to alter it.

The great difficulty which the old Ballast Office had to contend with was the bar of Dublin. This stretch of sand, extending across the bay, was such a hindrance to the shipping that it was suggested by them that the only way of solving the problem was by the building of two long piers, one at Sutton, another at Dunlany or Sandycove, from which it was proposed to carry great ship canals, five, six, or seven miles long, 160 feet wide, 20 to 24 feet deep, with proportional banks and townships, in which ships of great burden might be towed up to some convenient place of discharge; on the south side to a basin to be made adjoining the Grand Canal on the level of the Grand Canal Basin, near Ringsend, and on the north side to the Royal Canal Docks. The rough estimate of the expense of the harbour at Sutton and its canal was £800,000; for that at Dunlany, £489,734; and for Sandycove, £706,654. However, the plans were not carried out, owing to the expense; nevertheless, the old port authorities left some solid work behind them in the great lines of quays confining the river, extending to the Poolbeg on the south side, and the importance of this work cannot be overrated when we reflect that before the South Wall was built the high-water mark was at Townsend Street on one side and what yet remains of the name of the North Strand on the other. A curious illustration of the state of the harbour is found in the fact that during a storm in 1670 the tide flowed up to the College.

The soil raised by dredging the river during 180 years has contributed to fill up the space now occupied by the Custom House, Commons Street, Mayor Street, etc., to the north, and Great Brunswick Street, etc., to the south, and so late as 1728, when Booking's Map of Dublin was published, the whole ground known as the North and South Lotts was still covered by the tide; the name of Lotts originated in the resolution of the Lord Mayor and citizens to apportion them out and draw lots for them, with the stipulation that they should be enclosed from the river by a wall and filled up.

The first soundings taken of the bay were by a Catholic clergyman, Dr. McMahon, who spent three years on the work and framed a system of tide tables suitable to the port.

The Port and Docks Board, which succeeded the Corporation for the Improvement of the Port, operates under the Acts of 1787, 1807, 1808, and 1902. The Board is now constituted as follows:—The Lord Mayor, six members of the Corporation, twelve traders' members, and nine shipping members, making a total of twenty-eight.

(To be Continued.)

* She was his second wife, and had been married to him at the age of fifteen. By his first wife, Ann daughter of Chancelor Hyde, he had two daughters, brought up Protestants by their mother. They were married, one, Mary, to Prince William of Orange; the other, Ann, to Prince George of Denmark.

† Four children born to him by his second wife all died young, and some years had now elapsed without the birth of any other.

‡ The old, old story, always available, always efficacious!

cigarettes in packets (which total 80 per cent. of the entire tobacco consumption) makes one feel very sad. There seems to be a craze abroad for one particular brand of English Combine manufacture, which is retailed at 6d. per packet. This also applies to the packet retailed at two for 4d. To say they are either better manufactured, better packed, or contain better tobacco is untrue, as anyone in the trade knows.

There is no excuse either in reality for the consumer who glibly states he has got used to them, for two reasons: the first is, the change in tobacco is naturally quite frequent, as the tobacco market is so about that no manufacturer can keep one blend for any length of time, and, in any event, when either a strike or a war shortage occurs, what one is used to no longer counts for anything. During the war period this craze started, and the difficulty of inducing a customer to take any other brand was lamentable. When they were satisfied they were unprocureable, they chose in the way that had been customary.

Now, I ask all your readers who use tobacco to consider this position. Is it, not had enough to be subscribing to one John Bull's soldiers and machines of war, without also giving him all the employment (which is more considerable in the tobacco trade than in many more) to the enemy. The consumer of alcohol has this in his favour, that they usually buy drink manufactured in Ireland. The smoker, on the contrary, buys English and in nearly every case English Combine goods.

A girl can make one thousand cigarettes by hand in a day. The average smoker smokes twenty cigarettes by day, so, should he now take a pledge to smoke Irish cigarettes from this date, he will give a girl one day's employment every 50 days; if fifty smokers buy their cigarettes in the shop that makes its own cigarettes, they will secure her one day's employment. No one would credit the amount of employment that could be given in Ireland if every smoker bought his cigarettes of Irish manufacture. This will also give packers, labellers, advertising departments, railways, etc., greater employment.

The tobacco trade to-day pays the English Government the greatest amount of revenue: it breeds like locusts. Roughly, last year it amounted to £42,000,000. This would mean about £75,000,000 in retailing. At least £20,000,000 of this is collected in Ireland, of which, roughly, £11,000,000 is at present from raw leaf to the actual article sold, whether as cigarettes, tobacco or cigars, packed or loose.

At present the raw leaf goes to Liverpool or London, and then back to Dublin, Belfast, Cork, etc. But if we consumed only what we manufactured, thanks to the direct shipping now established, the MacCormack Line could bring this direct at a considerable saving, which, if itself, would give increased employment at Custom House, and would probably necessitate extensions of warehousing, as tobacco leaf is very bulky material, being packed in large racks.

The Irish manufacturers are quite as up-to-date with machinery, staffs, advertising, etc., as their capital will admit, and are the equal of all manufacturers outside the English Combine; but when I mention that the Imperial Tobacco Combine has a capital of £42,000,000 (42 millions), and has already closed up a considerable number of factories in England and Scotland, it is really wonderful to relate that our Irish factories have, up to now, not alone survived, but, while losing trade in Ireland, where they should have a monopoly, they have made considerable headway in England and Scotland, the home of the Combine. We have had two factories closed in Dublin during twenty years—Kennedy's and Lundy Road's. We ought now to decide to bring a big push on the tobacco front. Keep all our factories working overtime, and induce manufacturers to build additional factories, and new ones will surely follow.

I am informed that the Northern factories' representatives are not being as well received throughout Ireland as in previous years, but if this does not mean the trade passing to the other Irish factories, this means nothing for Ireland. I trust all readers will start from this edition of "Eire Og," and work and be propagandists for all Irish-Irelanders to use only Irish-manufactured tobacco articles, including pipes, the only Irish firm, Peter-sen's, being a credit to any country. Then another double victory will be won, and the danger of emigration lessened to the extent of the large additional employment that will accrue.

Conciliation

III.

Sixteen persons were arrested on the streets of Dublin on a charge of being "abroad" between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m., without the permission of the British Military Authorities.

A man whose name has not transpired was arrested by police at Belur-bet, for participation in a public welcome given to released Sinn Féin prisoners.

Sentences:—Messrs. T. Heselin, John Toole, P. McGigue, Martin Dwyane, and P. Ronayne, of Irish-town, (Claremorris), Co. Mayo, were sentenced to one month's imprisonment each on a charge of "unlawful assembly" in connection with land agitation.

Armed Assault:—In Derry City a party of armed police fired on a crowd of townspeople, many of whom were injured, including an ex-soldier, who was seriously wounded. Mr. J. Ramsay, another ex-soldier, of Long Tower Street, Derry, stated to the Press that he was present at the wake of his son who had died on Saturday. On hearing the sound of shots he opened his door and looked out. He was immediately set upon and knocked down by policemen, who threatened to smash in his head with a stick.

Military paraded the streets of Limerick City at about midnight and fired volleys of shots at townspeople who were passing to their homes.

To celebrate the release from jail of prominent local Republicans, the people of Belur-bet, Co. Cavan, organised a welcome for them on their arrival in the town. As the bands paraded the streets they were charged by police, who assaulted and injured several civilians.

TUESDAY, MAY 4th, 1920.

Raid:—Police and military raided the house of Mr. Michael Murphy, Milcove, Castletownere, Co. Cork, and made a thorough search of the premises.

Arrest:—Mr. Thomas K. Walsh, chief reporter on the "Anglo-Celt," Cavan, a Nationalist newspaper, was arrested at Cavan by military and police. No charge was brought against him.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5th, 1920.

Raid:—Military and police raided upwards of 200 houses in and around Gale Bridge, Listowel, Co. Kerry.

A large party of police and military visited, for the third time in a fortnight, the residence of Mr. J. J. Laying, Dundalk, Co. Louth. An exhaustive search was made, which lasted 1½ hours.

Arrests:—Two men, whose names have not transpired, were arrested at Tuam, Co. Galway.

Sentences:—Mr. Timothy Noonan, Gortboy, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick, was sentenced by district court-martial, held at Cork on April 22nd, to six months' imprisonment on a charge of having a shot-gun in his possession. Mr. John Fitzpatrick, Carrigue, Co. Tipperary, was sentenced by same court-martial to six months' imprisonment for refusing to obey an order of the British Military Authority prohibiting him from residing within the province of Munster, where his home is situated.

Armed Assault:—Two men—Messrs. Long and Callanan—were fired upon by armed police as they were passing near Doves police barracks, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. Mr. Long recognised their assailants, who, he says, fired on Mr. Callanan, because the latter gave evidence at The Ragg inquest in the circumstances of the shooting of Mr. Thomas Dwyer, his cousin, in regard to whose death the Jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against unknown members of the R.I.C.

Murder:—At the inquest into the circumstances of the death of Mr. Philip Dowling, who was shot dead in the streets of Arklow, Co. Wicklow, by riotous British troops, the Jury found that the deceased met his death "from bullet wounds fired by the military without justification, and that there was gross lack of discipline on behalf of the military authorities in allowing the men to break barracks a second time."

Deportations:—A Sinn Féin prisoner was deported from Kingstown Harbour under an armed police and military guard. His destination and identity have not been disclosed by the British Military Authorities.

THURSDAY, MAY 6th, 1920.

Raid:—Police and military carried out midnight raids in the district of Templetooly, Co. Tipperary. In all,

some forty houses were forcibly entered and searched.

Arrests:—Two persons were arrested on the streets of Dublin on a charge of being "abroad" between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m., without the permission of the British Military Authorities.

Treatment of Prisoners:—Ald. J. MacDonagh, M.P. for North Tipperary, released from Wormwood Scrubbs Prison on the point of collapse as a result of a prolonged hunger-strike, makes the following statement in a letter to Mr. Shortt, the English Home Secretary:—

"A large body of the Coldstream Guards was mobilised in the 'B' wing of the prison, and all the prisoners on 'B2' and 'B3' landings were removed by warders to 'B1' and a few to 'B4'. The prisoners on their feet walked, but those too weak to do so were not so fortunate in their removal. In my own case I was dragged out of bed and roughly hustled to the head of the stairs. Here one of the warders took me on his back, and by the time I got to the bottom I had become unconscious, and did not recover for over an hour. Another man (Hynes) was dragged out of bed by four warders, and, as he lay on the ground, beaten by them. Another (Collins), while being carried down stairs in a very weak condition, heard one warder urge the others to 'Drop the fellow!'"

"I presume you are already aware of the fact that one man (Crowley), while lying in bed, was sat on by a warder, his artificial teeth broken in his mouth, and portion of the plate driven down his throat. This happened on Tuesday at noon, but no doctor visited this man, who had been so forcibly fed, with his own teeth, until the next day. A colleague of Crowley's (Cahill), who went to his assistance when assaulted in the cell, received a black eye, and was knocked down by another order. Altogether there were eight warders in the cell, while a Guardsmen with fixed bayonet stood at the door to protect them from the three prisoners, who had then completed six days on hunger-strike."

"You are also probably aware that in almost every case three men were locked into each cell, though, I understand, the cubical content of a cell is only calculated to supply oxygen enough for one."

Mr. Hayes, Murroe, brother of Rev. J. Hayes, Liverpool, said the warder went about taunting men almost too weak to retort, making

such remarks as "You'll want a big coffin." Some prisoners were told that the others were taking food, with the hope that, in this way, the strike would end.

FRIDAY, MAY 7th, 1920.

Arrests:—Two persons were arrested on the streets of Dublin on a charge of being "abroad" between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m., without the permission of the British Military Authorities.

Sentences:—Mr. Oliver Mason, Whitefield, Co. Kerry, was sentenced by court-martial at Cork to 14 days' imprisonment on a charge of having in his possession a shotgun and cartridges.

Court-martial:—Mr. Michael Condon was tried by court-martial at Cork, on a charge of having taken part in an attempt to capture Aghern Barracks, Co. Cork, during last February. Mr. Condon stated in court that the police offered bribes to him to reveal the identity of his companions, and that they also threatened to take his life if he would not give the information required. Sentence has not yet been promulgated.

Mr. Joseph McGinnity, Ballymacdermott, Co. Armagh, was tried by court-martial at Belfast on a charge of having in his possession arms and ammunition. Sentence has not yet been promulgated.

Armed Assault:—As a crowd of boys were returning from a football practice match at Wexford, they were overtaken by a motor car containing policemen in uniform. One of the men stood up in the car as it passed the boys and fired his revolver at them, although no provocation whatever was given them.

Murder:—At the inquiry into the circumstances of the deaths of the three men who were shot by military and police at Miltown-Malbay, Co. Clare, the Jury returned the following verdict, and the Coroner issued warrants against those charged with the murders:—

"We find that John O'Loughlin, Patrick Hennessy, and Thomas O'Leary died as a result of shock and hemorrhage caused by bullet wounds on the night of April 14th, inflicted by members of the patrol consisting of Sergeant J. Hampson, Constables T. O'Connor and T. Keenan, R.I.C., and Lance-Corporal K. McLeod and Ptes. W. Kilgore, J. McEvan, P. McLoughlin, and R. Bunting and E. Adams, all of the Highland Light Infantry."

"We find that each of the above-named members of the patrol was guilty of wilful murder, without

any provocation; and we also condemn all the other members of the patrol for their action in trying to shield by their evidence those who committed the murders, and we tender our sympathy to the widows and orphans of the murdered men."

SATURDAY, MAY 8th, 1920.

Raid:—The houses of Messrs. P. Collins, B. O'Grady, T. Curmody, all of Ballylongford, Co. Kerry, were raided by military and police.

A military and police raid also took place on the house of Mr. T. Ryan, Ahanagragh, Co. Kerry.

A large force of police raided Carracrin National School, Co. Monaghan. In forcing an entrance they smashed in the roof and doors.

Arrests:—Mr. Henry Miller was arrested on a charge of being "abroad" on the streets of Dublin at 1.15 a.m., without the permission of the British Military Authorities. Evidence was given proving that Mr. Miller had not been "abroad" at the time of his arrest, as he had been arrested in a restaurant by a police and military patrol.

SUNDAY, MAY 10th, 1920.

Raid:—At Cloyne, Co. Cork, police and military raided upwards of 200 private houses. Whilst the raid was in progress aeroplanes circled over the houses.

Police and military infested the town of Newtownhamilton, Co. Armagh, forcibly entering and raiding some eighty dwellings.

The steamship, "Tashmoo," belonging to Messrs. Moore and MacCormack, an Irish-American Steamship Company, was raided by police and military on its arrival at Cork Harbour on a voyage from the United States.

Arrests:—Twenty-seven persons were arrested on the streets of Dublin on a charge of being "abroad" between the hours of 12 midnight and 5 a.m., without the permission of the British Military Authorities.

Eleven persons, whose names did not transpire, were arrested at Roscommon by military and police on a charge of "unlawful assembly" in connection with land agitation.

Sentences:—Messrs. John Egan, Michael Hanlon, Thomas Frehill, Thomas Hurley and John Kilkenny, of Kiltomer, Co. Galway, were each sentenced to two months' imprisonment on a charge of "unlawful assembly" in connection with land agitation.

Messrs. P. Curley, John Shiel and J. Staunton, of Galway, were sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment each on the same charge.

(Continued on page 7.)

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ÉIRE ÓS
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SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1920.

The Voice of the Nation

The following is the result of the County Council Election—the first held for six years. The former political complexion of the bodies is shown in parenthesis:

CONNACHT.
Galway (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Leitrim (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Sligo (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
Mayo (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
Roscommon (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein

LEINSTER.
Carlow (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Dublin (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Kildare (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Kilkenny (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
King's (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Longford (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Louth (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Meath (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Queen's (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
Westmeath (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
Wexford (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Wicklow (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein

MUNSTER.
Claro (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
Cork (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
Kerry (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
Limerick (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein
Tipperary N. (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Tipperary S. (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Waterford (Sinn Fein) ... Sinn Fein

ULSTER.
Antrim (Unionist) ... Unionist
Aragh (Unionist) ... Unionist
Cavan (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Dunegal (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Down (Unionist) ... Unionist
Fermanagh (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Derry (Unionist) ... Unionist
Monaghan (Home Rule) ... Sinn Fein
Tyrone (Unionist) ... Sinn Fein

Practically every Poor-Law Board and Rural District Council in Connaught, Leinster, Munster, and in the Ulster Counties of Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan has been won by Sinn Fein—a majority of these bodies have been won in Fermanagh and Tyrone, and several in the other four counties.

Out of 33 County Councils, Sinn Fein now controls 29. In the other four good gains have been made from the Unionists:

* In Fermanagh and Tyrone Sinn Feiners and Parliamentarians united to defeat the Unionists. In both County Councils the Sinn Feiners are now the stronger in numbers; the absolute majority over the Unionists comprises, however, the Home Rulers.

Quis Separabit

For twenty years past the Tyrone County Council has been in the hands of a minority, which, to the full extent of its powers, denied the majority public rights, and proclaimed to the world that Tyrone was a "Unionist County." This year, although the Unionists do not form two-fifths of the population, they secured the secret assistance of the Dublin Castle Local Government Board to carve up the constituencies in such a way that the purpose of Proportional Representation would be defeated. This was done, but, to make assurance doubly sure,

Dublin Castle was requested to arrest and imprison Mr. Murnaghan, solicitor, who had charge of the election for the people, Dublin Castle, of course, did so, and, in addition, seized his marked registers. The election is now over, and Dublin Castle and its agents in Tyrone are vanquished. The majority now rules in the Tyrone County Council for the first time—and for all time. Tyrone and Fermanagh—through the polls—have demonstrated their allegiance to Ireland, and killed the English idea that "Ulster" is not an integral part of the Irish nation.

America and Ireland

Last week the "Daily Independent" and the "Freeman's Journal" published the following piece of British propaganda cabled from the United States:

By ten votes to nine the House Foreign Affairs Committee rejected a resolution expressing the belief of Congress that, in the interest of world peace, Ireland should have a Government of her own choice.

The resolution adopted by the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives reads as follows:

Whereas the American people have always sympathised with the aspirations of every people seeking political freedom, and

Whereas the people of Ireland have shown unmistakably their desire to govern themselves, and

Whereas the conditions in Ireland, to-day, endanger world peace, and,

Whereas, in particular, the unrest caused by these conditions is inevitably reflected in these United States of America, tending to weaken the bonds of amity and the ties of kinship which bind so many of our people to the people of Great Britain and Ireland.

"Therefore, in the interest of world peace and international good will, be it resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring) that

"The Congress of the United States views with concern and solicitude these conditions, and expresses its sympathy with the aspirations of the Irish people for a government of their own choice."

The two papers we mention published the falsehood because it came to them from an English press-agency. The greatest campaign on Ireland's behalf ever carried on abroad is being carried on in America, and neither the "Daily Independent" nor the "Freeman" took the obvious course of securing an independent correspondent to follow its fortunes. Instead, day by day, they have inserted as "news" from America every falsehood concocted in the British Embassy at Washington, and despatched via the Exchange or Reuter. But this does not exhaust the possibilities of these metropolitan journals. A fortnight since all Rome was agog about Ireland. The majority of the Irish hierarchy were there—representative Irishmen from every part of the world were there—450 Catholic bishops representing every Catholic country were there—special representatives of French, Spanish, German, Austrian, and American journals were there. The occasion was the beatification of Oliver Plunkett, but no representative from those Irish daily papers was there.

The Pope and the Nations

Last week the Pope issued an encyclical in which he urged the nations to join fraternally in order to reduce, if it were not possible to eliminate, expenditure on war measures and material. His Holiness expressed the wish that independence and territorial integrity within its just frontiers would be assured to every nation, and added that the Church would co-operate with the peoples to these ends. He has failed to please the English Government. That Government has for months past exerted its utmost efforts in calumny to secure the alignment of the Vatican on its side against Ireland. To this end the Englishmen, Cardinals Gasquet and Bourne, have been employed in Rome, with the assistance of the English "lay" leaders. The most strenuous effort made in its modern history to defame our nation to the House of the Church to which the great majority of the people of Ireland belong, has been in

progress for months past in Rome. As the culmination, Mr. Arthur Balfour arrived at the Vatican with a glittering bribe and a concealed threat. He was heard and courteously dismissed. The Vatican refused to be misled into becoming a tool of English policy in Ireland.

The declaration of the Pope that independence and territorial integrity within its just frontiers should be ensured to every nation, and that the Catholic Church will co-operate with the peoples to these ends, is not an integral part of the Irish nation.

Not one section, but all sections of the people of England are engaged in the futile attempt to murder the Irish nation. So far as Ireland is concerned, the labels of Liberal, Tory and Labour which Englishmen wear are labels—no more. The English people elect the Government of England—the English people are responsible for the acts of that Government, and those who seek to differentiate between Englishmen—pretending that "English Labour" is not responsible—are knaves when they are not dupes. Out of eight millions of the electorate of England, five millions belong to what is described as "the working-class," and on them the responsibility rests for the murderous regime which England upholds in Ireland. That regime will pass and English rule will pass from Ireland—its "independence and territorial integrity within its just frontiers will be ensured to the nation"—but the fact, impressed by the proceedings of last week, that all English parties are equally inimical to this country will not pass away from the Irish memory.

War on the Irish Language

The method of killing a nation by obliterating its language is as old, in its quasi-scientific aspect, as the Romans. In modern times, Hungary, Bohemia, Poland, Roumania, and Bulgaria have been, to a greater or less extent, the battlegrounds of an Imperialism seeking to destroy a nationalism working to conserve a language. In Roumania and Bulgaria the attitude of the ruling power—Turkey—to the national languages of its subject peoples were not aggressive. The Turks did not proscribe the tongue of the Bulgars and the Roumans. They were merely indifferent. Vasselloff, the Bulgarian novelist, in his "Under the Yoke," gives a vivid picture of Bulgaria under the Turks, which shows them in a very favourable light as compared with the English in Ireland.

In Bohemia, Hungary and Poland the fight was different. The Austrians in the first two countries did work hard to drive the Czech and Magyar languages out of the use and knowledge of the people. They did not, however, make it a penal or punishable offence to study or to use them. They had much to learn in the arts of tyranny. Between Poland and Russia the struggle was much bitterer. The Russians eventually stopped the teaching of Polish in the Polish schools—to which the Poles retorted by establishing schools of their own. Here Russian despotism ended. The Russians did not close these schools, or occupy them by armed force.

Here the essential inferiority of the Russian to the Englishman is manifest. Take the case of Carthage College of Irish Teaching. The College has been created and maintained by the private monies of Irish people. In a few days it was to have reopened its sessions, and commit the act of teaching the Irish language in Ireland to Irish people. On Saturday morning last the British Army advanced from Kilkenny upon the College, and seized it by armed force. It is now occupied by the British Army, with bullet and bayonet, held in order to prevent the teaching of the Irish language to other people. Power in Europe has ever employed armed force in this way, so that England has made a new world-record.

The English soldiers, with their loaded rifles, and the windows of the violated College, are a sign and a symbol to the world; but on another side they recall Mrs. Partington. She, good woman, thought to sweep out the Atlantic Ocean with a broom. The political Mrs. Partingtons believe they can kill the Irish language with rifle bullets.

France and Ireland.

Paris, Friday.
The reinforcement of the English army of occupation in Ireland has attracted the attention of war critics who enjoy an international reputation. In a recent issue of "La République Française," Commandant de Cuvier tells how "Ireland was ruled under Lord Cromwell and since then maintained in subjection by force, Louis XIV. and afterwards the French Directory vainly endeavoured to emancipate her, but now she has adopted the principle, proclaimed by the French people during the late war, that peoples possess the primordial right of disposing of their destinies. In the name of this principle Ireland demands absolute independence. In order to maintain it the English have actually 50,000 soldiers in the country. This figure is increased from day to day with the arrival of cavalry and infantry regiments. Under these conditions it is easy to imagine why Lloyd George wishes to stop the Bolsheviks on the road to India by negotiations instead of force. Every thing is linked together to-day in this vast world, and more and more the British Empire transforms itself into one of those clay colossi that we have read of in history."

The situation in Ireland "La Dépêche de Toulouse" maintains, "should attract greater attention in this country. Not only does Ireland dominate all the internal politics of Great Britain, but she exercises a constant influence on the relations between the different parts of the Empire, not only are Anglo-American relations singularly complicated by the delays in solving the Irish question, but the future economic relations between France and Ireland—which could be very important—depend to a great extent on the temporary or definite regulation of the Anglo-Irish conflict which has now reached such a bitter stage."

The Daily Express or Sinn Fein Parliament represents 80 per cent. of the population. Eighty per cent. of the Irish people obey its dictates, recognise its tribunals, ignore altogether the English authorities. It is evident that the will of the people will ultimately prevail. After describing the success of De Valera's campaign in America, "L'Avenir du Châtillonnais," asserts that "in a short time England will repent because she did not profit by the remaining of the war in Europe in order to give Ireland her independence. Wilson alleged one hundred times during the war that peoples had the right to determine their destiny, but the Irish people were excluded from this right. The power of England, however, was not broken at home and abroad. The British Empire is evidently in extremis. M. Millerand is perfectly aware of this and need no longer allow himself to be trailed behind England. Lloyd George henceforth had better cease addressing his domestic and foreign remarks to us. Ireland will help us. Vive l'Irlande."

"If the partitions of Poland has formerly been the 'sin' of Europe," says "Le Courrier de Genève," "Ireland is and has been the 'sin' of England. On the 21st January, 1841, Montalembert dealing with the Polish question gave expression to the following words which are equally applicable to Ireland to-day. 'Whenever it was sought to destroy a nation the nation became the scourge of its would be destroyer and attached itself like an avenging spirit that is always open, always piercing to the flank of its oppressor.' That is the history of the hour and for centuries back there has been an Irish question because, England, instead of treating Ireland on an equal footing, has always two objects in view—to deprive her of her independence and her faith. Ireland faithful to herself, was condemned to a regime of spoliation and oppression in the middle of the last century notwithstanding the natural richness of her soil, tens of thousands of her people died of hunger, and hundreds of thousands of others, to avoid the same fate, were forced to emigrate. The descendants of those emigrants are a force in the new world to-day. In common with the rest of the Irish race they insist on self determination for their motherland. Ireland refuses the laws of the British Parliament. She has a right offer of Home Rule which, even if honestly made, is bound to fail. England is on the horns of a dilemma. 'She must either acknowledge the Republic of Ireland or endeavour to conquer the Irish people. We hope that for the honour of England, for the honour of humanity, she will do the former.'"

M. M.

England's Stranglehold on Irish Commerce

XXIX.

Belfast has been used as a standing argument of the alleged prosperity of Ulster equally alleged to be due to the "Union" with England. The growth of Belfast as a great industrial and manufacturing city, however, was never attributed to such a source by those who created that prosperity. Belfast was growing in population long before the "Union." What really requires to be explained is why the "Union" did not destroy Belfast. The answer is not an easy one. Those who argued so often and so loudly that the "Union" ought to have benefited the rest of Ireland have overlooked the very awkward fact of the general decay of Ulster in population. "Look at us," shouts the Belfast merchant. Well, we propose to look at him, and to study his origin in the pages of a "Report on the Town of Belfast," presented to the Poor Inquiry of 1835.

Belfast, in the County Antrim, contained, in 1831 (according to the Census of that year), 53,737, "and has been long remarkable for its manufactures; and, as a port, has enjoyed a state of progressive prosperity, with little interruption, for the last thirty years." It was then spoken of as a "town," while Cork was a city of 87,000 inhabitants, or 107,000, including the Liberties. Belfast was at this time rising at the rate of 2,000 a year increase in its numbers. In 1821 its population was 37,227. In 1831 it was 55,000. We are not given the figures for 1800, but the population must have been about 20,000. Dublin was then the industrial and manufacturing capital, as well as the political and social capital. Belfast had, therefore, nothing to lose by the "Union." It was, therefore, enabled to accommodate itself to English conditions, and to adopt the modern factory system without any great shock. Belfast was a prosperous expanding town in 1800, and it had a good trade with the West Indies and United States and Canada, and it was for many reasons in a position to take advantage of the situation to open up trade with Britain.

But the foreign trade of Belfast declined. In 1825 it amounted to 60,000 tons. In 1834 it sank to 53,000 tons. The coasting trade expanded from 230,000 tons to 381,000 tons in the same period. While 283 steamers entered and cleared for the foreign trade in 1825, not more than 3,000 entered and cleared for the coast. The foreign trade of Belfast made no improvement under the English stranglehold, a fact which is not mentioned by the "Imperial" writers. Belfast became and remains merely a Channel port with a mainly coasting trade.

In 1835 it was stated by Cransie, who published the "Import and Export List of the Port of Belfast," that the importation of British goods, Staffordshire ware, and the various manufactures of Staffordshire and of Yorkshire and Manchester, nearly tripled since 1812.

"The cotton trade," says the report, "fourished from 1803 to 1825, and during that time it was a great source of prosperity. But it has been in a very depressed state from that year to the present time." This was a very unfortunate and deplorable result of the "Union." The cotton industry paid as much as two pounds a week wages at the time of its prosperity. The Irish employer, protected by tariff which enabled them to pay good wages, were determined to carry on the industry under favourable conditions for the workers. But the English manufacturers were bent on ruining the humane system of the Irish.

In 1835 there were flax-mills at work belonging to A. Mulholland and Co. (employing 700); S. R. Mulholland, Hind and Co. (400); J. and J. Herdman (100); John Boyd (250); James Booner (200); Robert Thompson (200); and James Grimshaw (200). Flax-mills were being erected at that time for Charters, Murphy, Stewart, McKittin, and Montgomery. There were, therefore, seven flax-mills in operation and five building. There were seven cotton mills.

The linen and cotton-mills employed upwards of 4,000 hands in 1835, "most

of them children, who, by this means, are able to contribute materially to the support of their parents." Mulholland employed in his flax-mills, between 600 and 700 children who earned from 2s. 6d. to 6s. a week. "However," says the report, "though the employment is so considerable, there are still many who cannot obtain it." Mulholland thought he could get as many more hands as he had, and "persons will come 60, 70 or 80 miles to be employed." Belfast found employment for plenty of children. Mulholland was, of course, a spinner of flax by machinery, the system of wet spinning which was then new. The demand for hand-spun yarn was still as great as it was before the introduction of mill-spin. Mulholland imported French and Flemish flax, which he alleged "is very superior to the Irish for the following reason:—The Irish do not pay sufficient attention to the cultivation of flax; as they do not grow it in sufficiently large quantities, it is not worth their while to devote their time and attention to its improvement." The measures taken by the Irish Parliament to promote the cultivation of flax were abandoned quickly after the "Union."

The results were apparent. According to Mr. William Andrews, damask manufacturer, and Mr. Magennis, an employer of cotton weavers, there were in 1835 about 5,000 weavers in the "town of Belfast," whose wages averaged from 8s. to 12s. per week for linen, and 5s. to 6s. per week for a cotton weaver. Out of this they had in some instances to pay for winding, and in others about 1s. a web, for the hire of the loom, so that, on the whole, a weaver seldom got more than 1s. 3d. a day. They generally paid 45s a year rent. The looms were described as generally poor looking but cleanly, and their food "the same as that of the common labourer."

The cotton weaving trade experienced a period of great prosperity from 1805 to 1825, the cotton weaver earning from 12s. to 15s. a week, and constantly employed. About the year 1817 "Mr. Home had upwards of 1,000 cotton weavers in his employment, and Mr. Bell had a still larger number."

But about the year 1826 there was such great distress amongst the cotton weavers, arising from want of employment, that public subscriptions to a large amount were collected for their support. From 50 to 100 of them were sent out of the country to America. The effect of this provision was visible in the population returns for 1821 and 1831. Damask weavers could earn as much as 21s. a week, but it was then stated they were inclined to drink too much. It must be stated, however, that the weavers, as a whole, were not generally addicted to the use of spirits. They almost always married early, for marriage to them was a saving, as their wives used to do the winding for them.

A detailed examination of the state of Belfast in 1835 does not give any exhilaration. The familiar features of child labour and sweating appear already a savoury economic morsel. Emigration from the town was considerable. In 1834, June 30 it was over 4,500. One vessel was sent out filled entirely with cotton-spinners and calico printers, and other workmen connected with the cotton trade. But we shall have to deal separately with the special arguments of the "Union" which will be worthy of a chapter illustrating the effects of England's manifold stranglehold on Irish commerce.

NOTA

An dearmhad a dhin Huxley ba dhearmhad é i daobh Fachtana Mhoir. Ba chóir dhin bheith níos amhrúisithe fós i daobh Fachtana Beaga (subsidiary fact). Bheith rud éigin agamsa le ná tráil eile i daobh cloigne cuachas ná fáil a éol le fáil ar an dtalamh anois. Si ceud cheist a bhíon, le ríteach i daobh gach cloigne dhin tóir san ná "an cloigneann duine?" Le Facht Mór (Central Fact) a bhlaiseann cheist sin. Uaireanta bíonn feidir an cheist do ríteach i daobh na mbliainreacha a bhíon le fáil agus nuair a réitítráir a bhíon móran Fachtana Beaga le socrú.

Tá na mílte is na mílte fachtana ann nach feidir dhinn ann mbeathnail a bheith orainn ina daobh. Cuirtar roinnt díobh le chéile le teorir ná le fó-chur (hypothesis). Craobhscoiltear an fó-chur agus deínid lúth eolúochta é mbeath agus é bheathnail agus bheith go mbeathnail é mar príséid a lin eile díobh rúnais. Ní feidir go maireann sé agus go nglactar leis mar "thuairim," nó "fó-chur," "chun

oilre," agus ina "fó-chur chun oilre" dhó bheith go ndéanfa sé móran tairfe i gceist eolúochta. Bheith is go bhfachtar amach ar fáil, bheith go bhfuil sé nea-chruinn go leor ná nea-chruinn ar fad. Ach i gcaitheamh na haimseir sin go léir ní facht le feiscint é (objective fact) ach smaoinemh a cumadh in aigne dhúine.

Má claoitir go dian le díthe loighicín n'bhíreá a thuaisgint gur ceart a rá go bhfuil an rud i bhfuil teorice curtha ó amhras ar fad. Measaim go ndéanfaidh loighicín i gceist eolúochta (formal logic) go bhfuil teorice curtha innéach na griann-chineál (heliocentric theory of the solar system) curtha ó cheist ar fad. Ina dhiaid sin, ámh, ní amhras ar bith ag éinne ina daobh ach dhó bheith is fáil eile i daobh na tróma-thra-ceachtar gravitaitéar. An shon ná féidir do lucht fiseiceacha a rá fós cé is bun leis na nithe go bhfuil san mar sin ann orra.

Tá ag an aoi, aoi i gcás, cadé an rud nuair a bhí ag an aoi, leis, ná féil aon bhaint aige le cúlú creidimh. Ní ró-fhada a thugán an eolas san sinn. Teimís níos sin agus tugán na mílte neoinní fé ndéara agus id go léir mar a chéile náid mór agus a socraí in éir aige againn feasta, ní hámhain go bhfuil ann bhláth amháin ann "na bhfuil neoinn mar sin ann, ach go bhfuil na mílte míle míleoin díobh ann agus go dtagaid siad gachann bhláth. Ansan faghaidh sé sin go dtáit leis eilleantha ann agus, sé náid neoinní id, go bhfuil tréithe gheirálta an neoinní ionta. Sé ceud rud a bhíon le deuanh ag an luibh-eolúiche mar sin ná náid na plandaí do shórtáil ina n-aimh. Tá Linnaeus agus éir aige sin ar bhláth mhí-náidtráth mar threathach sé le chéile in aon aicme amháin plandaí ná raibh ann ghlao eorsta. Siúd ná náid na roinnt sin do réir náidre, ámh, do dhein sé móran tairfe mar a chéile i dhé, dhéir sé agus éigin teacht-le-chéile idir fachtana conarínacha agus thug sé caoi do dhaoine eile ar tuille sórtáil dheanmh.

Níorbh fhada gur léir, mara léir ó threathach é, go raibh na plandaí nea-gheallmáiríocht a bheith in aicmeibh ag Linnaeus agus ná raibh san do réir náidre agus ar ball do dínéad orra an roinnt "náidtráth," mar a tugtar air. De Jussieu na Fraince agus Robert Brown Shasana a dhin an tréathach de dhéir aige in aicmeibh chéile plandaí go bhfuil gach agus conghaas ealora, mar adeur, agus an anas fhágán an eolúochte réigin na bhfachtana sonair agus a thugán sí agbhair ar mhachaire na faellín-achta, bhláth is ná fáil de tairge sin leis an lucht feallínachta. Táirigh na diadhráir. Admáidh chéile go bhfuil gaoil idir píis dhéibh is píis bhláidhe is pónaire agus ní cluiridh éinne i gcoinbháil idir áireamh mar Phlogistónach agus is beag dhine ná hadmhóidh fírinne a réigin go mbeidh gurbh an planda amháin be cheap sinair dóibh ó tháir ná rabhadh ann ó tháir an domhain. Deirtear go minic gur an éinne amháin do ghluais na plandaí go dtáir agus ní staidar, uaireanta, gan a réigin an amháin do shloirug an uile ní atá. Ach an mor den méid sin bea ina thalamh dhuineann agus an mór de atá ina thalamh eolúochta? An nóir aon dalbh in aon chéir daobh airdheanna na bhplandaí agus ní cluiridh ann amhras a bheith orainn i daobh na n-aimseir ina bhfuil roinnte ag na luibh-eolúiche. Ach ní feidir bheith dhó sírdáil i daobh an cheud ní eile gur dhó an cheap sinair amháin do shloirug na píis pónaire. Má bhí a litéidh ann, agus dá dhóicheá a litéidh a bheith ann, ní an deimhníth fós againn ina thaoth. Ní againn ach teorir nó fó-chur ina thaoth agus ní leor ann. Is éir fós fós in nuastr a déirtear le fírinne a réigin (a primitive cell) éir shloirug gach ní beo, dar le daoine áirithe. Ní an fhianaise againn i daobh an dá ní sin agus dá bhí sin, ní fachtana id ach teorir nó fó-chur. Bheith go deimhníochas ina bheith fírinne, is éigin agus, má deimhnítráir, ní aniste fachtana tháir orra. Bheith, leis, go bhfachtar amach id a bheith neamh-fhíor, ach goif san mairidh náid mar theoiric agus ní fós ná go ndéanfáid a lán tairfe fé mar a dhin teorir leagan náid ach teorir cheimiceach na ndáil-cuir i gcás. Ní fólar do dhúine géille dífriní atáitha na heathóiríochta ar chéile dhó gach teorir eolúochta d'admháil láithreach. Is fearra dhó fírinne go bhfuil sé "na bhfuil sé, go mór mar a bheith a bheith an bun-ocsióin le haon rud a chreideann sé agus féin agus na bhfuil hunds leis is soirde ná an bun-ocsióin is feidir a bheith le teorir eolúochta.

Tadhg O Cianáin.

The Science and Economics of Beet Root

It was owing to British commercial jealousy that sugar was first extracted from beet root. During the French Revolution the French cane sugar refineries in Saint Domingo had been blown up by the British. This resulted in such a scarcity of sugar in Paris that it fetched the exorbitant price of 13 pence per lb. Patriotism, speaking through Louvet and Collot-d'Herbois, strongly advised the people to abstain from purchasing it. Seeing that the dearth of this article was driving the poor of France mad, the Committee of Public Safety consulted with the chemists as to the means to be adopted by which the supply of sugar could be increased. Beet-root was the article which, of all others experimented on by chemical analysis, contained the highest percentage of sugar.

Irish patriotism should to-day ban the purchase of sugar, and urge the farmers to cultivate beet-root. As to the inception of the latter, one acre to thirty would be a practical proportion. We cannot fully realise the value accruing to a nation from the cultivation of beet-root and its manufacture into sugar, unless we study works relating to its success in foreign lands. America owes much of its commercial supremacy to it.

One can judge of the great economic value of the sugar industry from what Mr. Myrick explains, than whom no man has written more lucidly on its success in the U.S.A. "Every pound of wheat and flour exported from America in 1896 was scarcely sufficient to pay for the sugar imported. The aggregate exports of wheat, beef products, and lard exported that year barely equalled the amount paid for sugar. The immense export trade in cotton represented in value only twice as much as the import of sugar. The vast exports of tobacco, sugar, and beef thrice to counterbalance the sugar imports. The barley, oats and rye, fruits and nuts, hops, vegetable oil, oleo margarine, butter and cheese, pork and lams, that were exported that year in the aggregate were valued in value only two-thirds of the sugar imported." This proves that the culture of sugar-beet is a vast asset to the commercial progress of a nation. About the period mentioned the annual imports of sugar to America were valued at 100,000,000 dollars.

The chemical composition of beet-root is such that during its growth it decomposes many invaluable ingredients in the soil that are indispensable to the production of cereals. The cultivation of beet-root is, therefore, the key to a general agricultural revival. According to the Irish Trade Statistics of 1918, we imported that year sugar and its manufactures to the value of £2,700,000. By growing our own beet and manufacturing it, we would save this large amount. Moreover, the natural result would be the production of all our own food and feeding-stuffs. In 1918 we imported such stuffs to the value of £1,650,000. Surely, £2,000,000 is a sum worthy of the serious attention of Irishmen to be kept at home. Producing all our own agricultural stuffs will place our system of national economics on a solid basis.

Agricultural chemistry points out that land containing about 12,000 lbs. of alkaline salts per acre to the depth of three feet is admirably adapted to produce a good yield of beet of superior quality. Beet-root requires fertilisers rich in potash and low in phosphoric acid. Experts state that the application of manures containing a large amount of nitrogenous matter not only diminishes the sugar-content, but even increases the percentage of non-sugars.

Of all crops grown in America, beet-root is considered the most profitable. Herbert Myrick writes as follows on the point:—"An acre of corn in the west yielding 40 bushels of grain worth 15 c. per bushel will buy little more than 100 lbs. of granulated sugar. Had one acre of it been cultivated at that rate of land, from 2,000 to 3,000 lbs. of refined white sugar would have been produced thereby. The corn under such conditions returns about 6 dollars per acre for all the labour and capital invested in that crop. Sugar-beets yield 25 dollars to 50 dollars per acre, and, while they require far more labour, they pay for it, and leave a net profit of 10 dollars to 25 dollars per acre, which is remunerative in comparison to the meagre returns from wheat and oats." This is conclusive argument that, from an agricultural standpoint, beet-root is a most profitable crop.

In the cultivation of sugar-beet, the point to be most sought after is the production of small roots weighing about 2 lbs. each, as they contain the higher sugar content and a greater degree of purity than the heavier root. One hundred pounds of beets contain about 90 pounds of juice. This juice contains sugar and an amount of mineral matter which impedes and causes a deterioration in the manufacture of sugar. One hundred pounds of average beet juice contain about 15 pounds of solid matter, of which 12 are generally sugar and 3 not sugar. By dividing the number of pounds of sugar (12) by the total amount of solid matter (15), we get 80, which is called the coefficient of purity. Thus it is evident that beet juice, with 15 parts solids, 12 of which are sugar, has a coefficient of purity of 80.

The third famous argument in favour of the domestic production of beet of sugar has been thus adduced by Myrick on the monetary problem, which is no less important than the other two. The country has been convulsed over the proposition of free silver coinage at 16 to 1. The most advent advocates of that policy have not proposed to coin more than 100,000,000 silver dollars per year. Now, without discussing the pros and cons of the silver question, no one will deny the benefits that would accrue by keeping at home the 100,000,000 (gold standard) dollars that are sent out of the country each year for sugar. If this sugar is all paid for in money instead of partly in merchandise, keeping at home the vast sum would infuse one per centum circulation of 1.50 dollars the year, or 15 dollars in ten years, and in fifteen years it would double our present per capita circulation. Certainly it would help to solve the currency problem.

Those are the three great arguments—the agricultural, commercial, and the monetary—by which Irish national economists should be guided in the domestic production of beet sugar. When a wealthy country like America attacked such vast resources in this industry, how much more should an absolutely undeveloped country as Ireland be attached to it. The beet sugar industry affords a new crop to agriculture and enriches the farmer. Moreover, beet culture does not impoverish the soil, especially if the leaves are left to decay where the crop has grown, as they contain almost two-and-a-half times the chemical elements of the root. This industry would open up a large field for increased employment to both skilled and unskilled labour of all ages, and would tend to contribute substantial wages, as the increase would be taken from the huge sum that now leaves the country for foreign sugar.

The beet sugar industry increases the value of land very much. Large ranches in China, California, were, prior to the establishment of the sugar industry there, scarcely saleable at 60 dollars per acre. They are since worth 200 dollars per acre.

As sugar is composed of carbon and oxygen, both of which are imbibed by the beet through the leaves, Lewis Ware, founder of the Journal, The Sugar-Beet, writes as follows on the point of the best increases with the number and weight of the leaves. Each leaf has communication with a certain portion of the root, and supplies it with the necessary nutriment. The outer leaf corresponds with the inner portion of the root, and the older leaves are the more saccharine is supplied. The root does not begin to increase very much in size until the leaves are fully formed, and the greater the size of the leaves, the more chemical elements they are capable of absorbing from the atmosphere.

The rich limestone districts of Ireland are admirably adapted to the culture of sugar-beet. Last year I cultivated half an acre of it, and, although the system of cultivation was inferior and the sowing one month late, I harvested a splendid crop. Sir Charles Cameron, having made a complete analysis of some sample beets, found 16 per cent of sugar in them, a very high percentage for beets weighing over 3 lbs. each, and stated that they were of "exceedingly good quality." Beets should be sown in rows 18 inches apart about 1st May. The close sowing produces sugar beets containing 10 per cent of sugar in the roots, which is a very high percentage. It is a thoroughbred, and increases in richness as a result of proper in-breeding and care.

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