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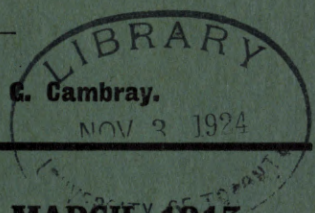
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UNION DEFENCE LEAGUE.

IRISH FACTS FOR BRITISH PLATFORMS

(NEW SERIES).

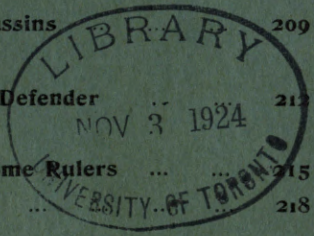
Edited by Philip G. Cambray.



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IRISH FACTS.

Vol. VII.—No. 3. (New Series.)

MARCH, 1913.

CURRENT NOTES.

Mr. Birrell Must Go.

At a meeting of the Westport branch of the United Irish League on February 16th, 1913, Mr. P. J. Doris said:—

“ We are ruled in this district at present—and I say it openly and above board—by as bad a Chief Secretary as ever cursed Dublin Castle. And it is very regrettable and saddening to think that a man of that kind, who treats the Irish people, and the people of this district with such contempt, can be made the special idol of the representatives of the people of Ireland in the House of Commons. Continuing, he referred to a sealed order, signed by Mr. Birrell, and sent to seven members of the Westport Urban Council, ordering them to pay the amount of the auditor's surcharge, £105, which they voted to defray the recent law-suit between the Council and Lord Sligo in connection with the sewage of the town. The day after that sealed order was issued he read that Mr. Birrell was entertained to dinner by Mr. J. Redmond and the Irish Party.”—*Irish Times*, Feb. 19.

Mr. Roosevelt, Home Ruler.

The *Freeman's Journal* (February 15) publishes a letter from ex-President Roosevelt to Pat. Ford, expressing approval of the Home Rule Bill. The “big stick,” finding occupation gone at home, is apparently to be used in our domestic affairs and against the Unionist Party here.

“A Fool's Paradise.”

All students of the Irish question should read that admirable book, “A Fool's Paradise,” by Professor Dicey, (Murray, 3/6) which forms a supplement to the same author's previous work, “A Leap in the Dark.” For some twenty years the latter work has been a textbook for Unionist thinkers and speakers, setting

forth as it does the Irish question from the broadest and highest constitutional standard.

In a "Fool's Paradise," Professor Dicey analyses in trenchant fashion some of the main provisions of the Home Rule Bill, with a masterly knowledge and an incisive logic, which will command the admiration of those who agree with him and the respect of his opponents. Within the necessary brief limits of a review it is impossible to deal even with the broadest aspects of the book, much less to enter upon details, so closely compressed and terse in their argument. Professor Dicey combines the utmost analytical subtlety with a surprising clearness of expression, in a manner which enables the most difficult points to be grasped without confusion.

There is no one, however great and expert he may think himself upon the question, who will not rise from a perusal of this book with new ideas, and a profounder insight into the difficulties which beset the question of Home Rule.

The Meddlesome Nationalists.

A typical example of Nationalist interference in purely British politics, is found in the manifesto which Mr. J. Redmond and Mr. T. P. O'Connor have issued to the London Municipal Electors, urging them to support the Progressive Candidates for the County Council. (The manifesto appeared in the *Daily Chronicle* and the *Daily News and Leader*, of February 24th.).

What have the Irish Party got to do with the Government of London? What right have they to intervene in this purely British local matter, at the very moment when they are denying to Englishmen the right of interference in Irish affairs?

The *Daily Chronicle* of January 22nd objected to the Irish Party taking part in the discussion of Woman's Suffrage, in the following words:—

"If they (the Irish members) did not abstain, and if an important proposal affecting Great Britain only were defeated by Irish votes, they would greatly prejudice the future of Home Rule. All the Conservative taunts about their wanting at the same time to govern themselves and to govern us, would seem startlingly verified; and a breach of confidence would be created between them and the British democracy, which would be the worst possible preparation for the waiting period under the Parliament Act."

The Irish Party have meddled with the Welsh Church, they were ready to meddle with Woman's Suffrage, both purely British questions. Now they go further and stick their fingers

into our Municipal affairs. Thus are they startlingly verifying "the Conservative taunt" that they want to manage their own affairs and ours as well, and thus are they creating a "breach of confidence between themselves and the British democracy."

Mr. Redmond's Complaint.

The fact that Mr. John Redmond holds the Government in the hollow of his hand, is not overlooked by that astute gentleman who complained bitterly the other day that Mr. F. E. Smith had addressed a question to the Government and not to him. Mr. Smith speaking on the occasion of the third reading of the Home Rule Bill on January 16th. said:—

"When the Prime Minister asks us what we propose, we propose that you should tell us plainly, 'Will you on any terms consent to the exclusion of Ulster? If so, what are those terms?' If there are none, we know where we stand."

Mr. Redmond commenced his reply by complaining that:—

"The right hon. and learned gentleman concluded his speech by addressing '**A direct question to the Government. He did not address that question to me.**'"

—*Parl. Deb.*, January 16, *Cols.* 2315-6.

A Sordid Bargain.

MR. BONAR LAW, speaking in the House of Commons on the Welsh Disestablishment Bill on February 5th, said:—

"... That it has reached even the present stage is not due to the Government. The credit for it, if credit it be, is due to the hon. gentlemen (the Irish Nationalists) below the gangway, who alone had made it possible that we are now discussing the Third Reading of the Bill. I think on seven or eight separate occasions the Bill would have been dead but for the fact that it received the support of Nationalist members to a larger extent than the amount of the majority in its favour. That Bill is being pushed forward under these conditions by a Government, the head of which told the country some years ago that his party ought not to take office unless they had an independent majority, and he told us in this House, only this Session, that he still adhered to that declaration in the letter and in the spirit. That is the history of the Bill up to this date. I know that the hon. member for Mayo refused to accept the suggestion that the saviours of the Bill did not vote in accordance with their convictions."

MR. DILLON: I said we had voted in accordance with our convictions.

MR. BONAR LAW: Refused to accept the suggestion that they had not, which is very much the same thing. But in the same speech in which he made that interesting declaration he said that we owed a good debt of gratitude to Welsh members, and he was proud of the opportunity of paying that debt. The hon. and learned gentleman, the Leader of the party (Mr. Redmond) at a meeting in Wales, made the obvious and open avowal that if he got the support of Welsh members for Home Rule, they would have the support of Nationalist members for Welsh Disestablishment. There is no doubt upon the point. I will read the words which were actually spoken in this House by the hon. and learned member for Waterford (Mr. Redmond), in regard to his attitude to all English questions. He said:—

“ Your English politics do not concern us. Our votes will, in this Parliament, as in past Parliaments, be directed by one sole consideration—by what we regard to be the interests for the time being of Ireland.”

To those who feel strongly on this question it is an additional and intolerable injustice that such a question should be settled absolutely by the votes of hon. members who avow that those votes are given without any regard to the merits of the question.—*Parl. Deb.*, Feb. 5. *Cols.* 2302-3.

A shameless and sordid attitude. Help us to split up the Empire, and we will help you to rob the Church. Mr. Bonar Law's indictment is supported in a striking manner by the following table.

Saved by the Irish Again.

The Government were saved from overwhelming defeat on February 4th by the Irish Nationalist vote. The occasion was the last day of the Report Stage of the Welsh Church Bill, and Captain Tyron moved an amendment to Clause 8 which sought to leave all glebe (the land attached to church livings) in the hands of the church. After the division had been taken the figures were declared as follows:—

For the amendment	...	...	...	220
Against the amendment	...	...	...	248
				228
Government majority	...	...	...	28

Three Liberals, Sir Edward Beauchamp, Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Wm. Pearce, voted against the Government, while two other Liberals, Sir Chas. Nicholson and Mr. G. France, who were present abstained from voting.

46 Irish Nationalists voted with the Government, who without their support would have been in a minority of 18.

On eight previous occasions during the consideration of this Bill the Government majorities have fallen below the total strength of the Nationalist section in the House—84. They are:—

First reading	...	...	...	...	78
Second reading	...	...	...	...	81
Instruction to divide the Bill into two parts	...	...	...	...	83
To take from the Church only tithe rent charge	...	...	...	...	50
Clause 4 (vesting of property)	...	...	...	...	67
To retain glebes for the Church	...	...	...	...	55
Clause 8 (distribution of property)	...	...	...	...	63
To safeguard curates' interests	...	...	...	...	40

The Union Jack and Nationalist Hatred.

In the House of Commons on December 12, 1912, during the committee stage of the Home Rule Bill, the Unionists moved that a new clause be added to the Home Rule Bill providing that the Union Jack should continue to be the official flag of Ireland.

Mr. Jeremiah MacVeagh, Nationalist Member for South Down, in a virulent speech opposed the new clause as did Mr. Redmond.

The Committee divided—166 voted for the new clause; 292 against it.

It is all very well for Nationalists now to use honeyed words with reference to the British Empire, but their actions betray their real feelings.

The *Irish World* of October 7, 1911, published an interview with John Redmond, by John L. Eddy, in the course of which occurs the following:—

“As I drove up through the beautiful green valley my driver pointed out proudly the Stars and Stripes floating from a corner of the grim old barracks in the centre of the mountain town. I asked ‘Whose place is that?’ ‘Its Redmond’s’ he replied. ‘He always has an American flag flying at this end, and an Irish flag at the other.’ ‘Where is the Union Jack?’ I asked. ‘Don’t know’, said the driver. ‘I don’t think he has got any British flag, I never saw one flying there anyhow.’”

A disgraceful orgy of disloyalty is reported by the *Ennis-corthy Echo* of June 10, 1911, which says:—

“Great excitement reigned in New Ross (Co. Wexford) on Monday, when a number of young men held a bonfire at

the '98 monument on a number of Union Jacks. A Dublin gentleman drew attention to **the offensive flag** for the first time. A deputation then waited upon a gentleman belonging to the firm from whose place the flag was floating, and pointed out to him that a Union Jack had no place at a Feis muster, least of all in New Ross, and on the anniversary of the battle. The gentleman in question at once removed **England's emblem of treachery** and gave it to the deputation. It was quite a small one, and in the hurry of decorating for the Feis was unnoticed. Two more were captured in William Street and Michael Street, and one was forcibly removed from a house whose owner refused to give it up. The flags were then soaked in oil, brought to the foot of the '98 monument and burned amid the cheers of the crowd who assembled to watch the event.

As recently as January 17, last, the day after the Home Rule Bill passed its third reading both the *Pall Mall Gazette* and the *Globe* reported that the Union Jack was publicly burned in the streets in the Nationalist quarter of Belfast amid fierce demonstrations of disloyalty.

Again the *Echo and South Leinster Advertiser* of January 6, 1912, contained an article on the "Fianna" of "National Boy Scouts of Ireland" in which it was stated that at a convention of the Fianna recently the doormats and stair carpet were made up of several large Union Jacks which the boys managed to capture during the Coronation festivities while the police were not looking.

Another flagrant example of Nationalist hatred of our flag is found in the action of the Dundalk Harbour Board on September 6, 1911 when, (according to the *Irish Independent* of the following day)

"Mr. J. M. Johnson moved that no subscription be given to the Dundalk Show as long as the Union Jack was kept on the Kelly monument."

A final example of this hatred is found in a poem which appeared in *Irish Freedom* of February 1, 1913, under the heading of "We hate you still." The first verse is as follows:—

"We hate you, bloody England, still,
 Though time has shed seven hundred years
 Since first your savage sons did fill
 Our valleys with their scarlet spears.
 We hate as only those can hate
 Who, free in freedom's paradise,
 Are lured into the desolate
 Bondage of pain by wiles and lies."

Instances of similar occurrences and writings might be multiplied many times but the above examples will show that despite all Mr. Redmond's professions of loyalty and all his talk about "Our Empire" the real feelings of the Irish Nationalist are those of intense hatred and disloyalty towards England and English institutions.

Mr. Birrell and Ulster.

During February the Chief Secretary delivered three speeches in England on the Irish question, and in each of these speeches, delivered at Newcastle, Bristol and Warrington respectively, Mr. Birrell admitted frankly the Ulster difficulty, and asked what proposals Ulster was prepared to put forward, laying stress in each speech on the fact that no force would be used to coerce Ulster. Extracts are given below from each of the three speeches:—

At Newcastle on February 7:—

"He recognised there were tens of thousands of Protestants in the East of Ulster who had the utmost aversion to being subjected to an Irish Parliament and Executive, and who doubted the capacity and honesty of their fellow-countrymen. He admitted that this aversion had got to be conquered in some way or another, and that justice had to be done to these people; but those who claimed that Ulster should be left out should put clearly in black and white what they wanted, and should satisfy him that they really wanted it. After they had ascertained the cost and the consequences of it they might rejoice without trembling."—*Freeman's Journal*, February 8, 1913.

At Bristol on February 11:—

"The only outstanding difficulty to the immediate solution of the question was Ulster. . . He had had forty-nine predecessors and there never was one at any time who could say there was no fear of bloodshed in Belfast.

. . . Depend upon it the soldiers of the King won't be employed in mowing down the peaceful Protestants of Belfast."—*Western Morning Press*, February 12, 1913.

At Warrington on February 15:—

"They were told that the one obstacle was the determined dislike of a number of persons in Ulster to being placed under a National Parliament assembled in Dublin. The least people can do who go about saying that if this Home Rule policy is pursued it means civil war . . . is

to state in black and white what they want. . . . I have always been willing to deal gravely and seriously with the Ulster question. There are hundreds of thousands of stalwart men in . . . Ulster who do not relish the idea of throwing in their lot with their Catholic fellow-subjects in other parts of Ireland. I do not blame them for not liking it but I ask them gravely to consider an alternative and put it before us. . . . As for shooting them down who intends to shoot them down? They say 'Will the soldiers of the King march through Belfast and mow down with their horrible artillery the Protestants of Belfast!' The answer is 'No!' . . . We have no intention of doing it."—*Manchester Guardian*, February 17, 1913.

Catholic Priest and Home Rule.

Preaching on Sunday, December 1st, 1912, at St. Malachy's College, Belfast, the Rev. Gerald O'Nolan, M.A., B.D., of Maynooth, said:—

"For Ireland's sake, for the sake of that dear Faith for which our fathers bled and died, let us resolve this evening that the interests of that holy Faith will always come first and foremost in our minds, and that no hope of mere gain will ever induce us to swerve one hair's-breadth from the path of public or private duty, marked out in such dramatic, and sometimes tragic, manner by the saints and sages whose lives and deaths light up so luridly the pages of your country's history.

"Let us resolve to know our Faith, to learn it, teach it, love it, cherish it, defend it, to practice its maxims, to make it the mainspring of our life's endeavour; to cultivate every study that will serve to throw light upon the ecclesiastical and civil history of our past, and that will act **as an antidote to those poisonous Anglicising influences** that make the present so deplorable. It is high time for us to show what our Irish Faith is made of. We shall have a free hand in the future. Let us use it well. This is a Catholic country, and if we do not govern it on Catholic lines, according to Catholic ideals, and to safeguard Catholic interests, it will be all the worse for the country and all the worse for us. Here it is that religion and nationality meet, and may, and should, go hand-in-hand. . . ."—*Irish News*, Dec. 2, 1912.

When the power of the Church is used to spread the Gospel that all English influence is "poisonous," how futile becomes Mr. Redmond's assurances that when Home Rule is granted it will be granted to a loyal and contented people.

A Lesson in Home Rule Intolerance.

The General Council of Irish County Councils—a misdescription since it comprises only Nationalist Councils, the Unionist Councils withdrawing some years ago through the majority breaking the pledge not to introduce politics—have recently given a useful lesson in Home Rule intolerance.

Mr. Birrell proposes to give £10,000 a year for scholarships from the primary to the secondary schools, attaching to the grant the two conditions that

(a) The holders of these scholarships should have the first claim upon County Council scholarships at the Irish Universities.

(b) The County Councils should abandon their boycott of the University of Dublin.

As to (b) the County Councils have established *rate-aided* scholarships, but in most cases have confined them to the National University, thereby inflicting a disadvantage upon Protestant ratepayers who desire their children to go to Dublin University rather than to the National University, which is in atmosphere to be made a Roman Catholic University.

The General Council of County Councils at its meeting on February 10, declined to accept Mr. Birrell's proposals. As the *Irish Times* says, "it is willing to lose £10,000 a year rather than forego the pleasure of penalising the University which is most in favour with the Protestant and Unionist ratepayers of Ireland."—February 11, 1913.

Mr. Redmond freely makes promises to the minority, assuring them of the complete preservation of their liberty and freedom under Home Rule. It is now his favourite occupation. What surprise can be felt that the minority interpret them in the light of the actions of his followers in Ireland and find them worthless.

Mr. Dillon, writing to the *Irish Times* (February 18) announces that he cannot approve the Nationalist boycott. "I deeply regret," he says, "the action taken by the General Council of County Councils. I regret it on educational grounds, and far more because I am forced to admit that it involves a grave injustice to the Protestant ratepayers and to the Protestant students who might have won scholarships under the scheme and preferred to go to Trinity College, or to the University of Belfast."

This is the new Mr. Dillon: and he must feel strange in his company with Unionists. His old associates will be annoyed, for they are only acting upon the teachings of the Irish

Nationalists, among whom Mr. Dillon has been a prominent leader.

No doubt the General Council's action is untimely and contrary to the latest policy of the Irish Nationalist Party: but all men cannot adapt their views to immediate circumstances: and the old Mr. Dillon possesses influences which still have force.

Intolerant Nationalists.

Yet another example of Nationalist intolerance is found in the reports of the meetings of local bodies in Ireland which passed a resolution condemning Lord Killanin, an Irish peer, who voted against the Home Rule Bill.

At a meeting of the Galway Board of Guardians on February 5th, the following resolution was passed:—

“That we condemn the action of one of our members, namely, Lord Killanin, in raising his voice and using his vote against the second reading of the Home Rule Bill in the House of Lords, and that we as a Nationalist body and Home Rulers to a man expected better treatment at his hands. That copies of this resolution be sent to all the public Boards in the Co. Galway, also to Mr. John Redmond and the *Freeman*.”—*Freeman's Journal*, Feb. 6.

The Caherlistrane (Co. Connaught) branch of the United Irish League at a meeting on February 2nd passed the following resolution:—

“That we condemn in the strongest manner the action of Lord Killanin, a member of the Galway County Council, in voting in the House of Lords against the Home Rule Bill, thus depriving the people of the Irish nation of their freedom, which was taken from them by corruption and fraud; and we most respectfully request our Nationalist representatives on the County Council to pass a vote of censure, at their first meeting, on Lord Killanin, for his action, and look upon him as one of the bitterest enemies; that copies of this resolution be sent to Mr. O'Donnell, C.C., Mr. Dermody, C.C., and to the Press.”—*Connaught Tribune*, Feb. 8.

How the U.I.L. Rules.

Mr. James Traynor, speaking at Bailieborough on February 16, 1913 said:—

“As the District Councillors were selected by the United Irish League, he considered that they should take advice from the League on matters of such grave importance, and he begged to move that the members of the Council who belonged to the branch district be requested to attend the special meeting on March 3, next.”

The resolution was put and carried.—*Anglo-Celt*, February 22, 1913.

Another of the many forms of intimidation which are used to swell the membership of the United Irish League, is seen in the following extract from a speech by the Rev. Father Bryne, at a meeting of the Ratheniskea (Maryborough) branch of the U.I.L., on February 16th.

“It would,” he said, “be advisable for them if they wanted to get any of the land that would be dividing up to know that those who were not members of the branch would not reap the fruit of their neighbours’ agitation. If they wanted to get a patch they should be staunch, attending members of the League.”—*Nationalist and Leinster Times*, Feb. 22.

Local Government in Ireland.

The following extract from a report of a district council exemplifies the conditions under which Local Government is carried on in Ireland.

At a meeting of the Tralee Rural District Council, the following notice of a motion was handed in by Mr. Lenihan:—

“I hereby give notice that I will move on this day fortnight that the giving of intoxicating liquor among members of the board and council in the board-room, or the precincts of the Board of Guardians or Council meetings by applicants seeking positions under the Guardians or Rural Council, or officials applying for increases of salary, be prohibited.”—*Cork Constitution*, Feb. 12.

Still another example of discreditable practices among local government bodies is found in the following extract taken from a report of a meeting of the Lisnaskea (Co. Fermanagh) Board of Guardians:—

“The appointment of a relieving officer in the Lisnaskea Union to-day, gave rise to a spirited protest on behalf of the Protestants of the Union who pay the largest proportion of the rates. The post was rendered vacant by the death of Mr. John A. Beatty, Killykieran, and his

son Mr. Ernest Beatty, who for a long time has been temporarily doing the work, was one of six applicants for the post. On a vote he was defeated by 27 to 12 votes, all the Nationalists voting in a body against him.

“The elected candidate is a brother of a member of the Board, who attended and voted for him.”—*Dublin Daily Express*, Feb. 3.

The conditions which prevail in the conduct of local government in Ireland, of which the examples given are fair specimens, indicate under what conditions full self-government will be carried out.

The Pledge of the A.O.H.

In the House of Commons on February 12:—

Colonel Hickman asked the Prime Minister if his attention has been drawn to the proposition statement of the Ancient Order of Hibernians (Board of Erin) Friendly Society, having some 130,000 members, in which a pledge is exacted and signed by any person wishing to join this society as an approved society for the purposes of the National Insurance Act to the effect that he is prepared to use his influence on all occasions in opposition to the presentation of addresses of either welcome or loyalty to any English monarch or representatives of the English garrison until all religious disabilities shall be removed and the legislative independence of Ireland bestowed; and does he propose that a society exacting such a pledge from its members should continue to be an approved society under the National Insurance Act?”

“Mr. Masterman: No, sir, no such pledge is exacted in case of application for membership of any approved society or separate section conducting business under the National Insurance Act.”—*Parl. Deb.*, February 12, *Col.* 481.

The pledge referred to by Colonel Hickman is embodied in the proposition statement of the society produced below, appears immediately above the space for the signature of the applicant, but according to Mr. Masterman, the pledge is not required from those who become Hibernians merely to enjoy the “rare and refreshing fruit” of the Insurance Act. Hibernians by conviction, only take the pledge.

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS (BOARD OF ERIN) FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

Division.....

PROPOSITION STATEMENT.

Having been over three months a member of this Order, I propose for membership Mr..... of..... occupation..... whom I have known for..... as a practical Catholic and Nationalist, who, I am informed, was born in..... County.....

Signed..... Address.....

CANDIDATE'S STATEMENT.

What is your name ?.....

Age ?

Address ?

Occupation ?

Are you a Practical Catholic ?.....

Have you complied with your religious duties within the last twelve months ?.....

Were you ever a member of the A.O.H. previously ?

If so, state number of your Division and cause of your leaving.....

Do you belong to any social or political organisation ? If so, state name.....

Are you in receipt of any pension or allowance of any kind for service in the Army, Navy, or Police Forces ?

Are you in good health ?.....

Have you ever undergone any medical treatment or surgical operation for any disease or injury which has impaired your health ?.....

(If married), what is your wife's name ?.....

Age ?

Is she now in good health ?.....

I do solemnly pledge my sacred word and honour that the answers I have given to the above questions are true, that I will be bound by the general rules of the Order ; also that I am prepared to use my influence on all occasions in opposition to the presentation of addresses of either welcome or loyalty to any English monarch or representative of the English garrison, until all religious disabilities are removed and the legislative independence of Ireland is restored.

I further promise that in all my dealings I will give a preference in purchase or use to goods manufactured or grown in Ireland, and that I will aid the spread of the Irish language and literature.

Signed..... Address.....

* When not for benefits please sign.

I do not desire any benefits, and therefore have not submitted for medical examination, and acknowledge I am not entitled to receive any until I comply with the conditions proposed for membership of such.

* Signed

The "Terror" Gains Strength.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians, which is to be "a terror to its enemies" (i.e. the Unionists and Protestants of

Ireland), according to its President, Mr. Joe Devlin, M.P., is gaining many supporters.

At the annual meeting of the members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians held at Dublin, the County Secretary (Mr. Hugh A. Mullett) said:—

“Twelve months ago we had under the jurisdiction of the Dublin County Board, 16 Divisions, with a membership of about 4,000. At the close of 1912 we had 42 Divisions with close on 10,000 members, showing an increase in membership of almost 6,000.”—*Freeman's Journal*, Feb. 18.

Limerick Riot Sequel.

According to the *Dublin Daily Express* of January 23rd claims for compensation amounting to £1,314 10s. 5d. have been made in connection with the damage that was done in Limerick on October 10th last, when, after an Anti-Home Rule meeting which was addressed by Mr. G. Wyndham, the Nationalists attacked those leaving the meeting and wrecked the surrounding property. Judge Law-Smith, in giving judgment, awarded the applicants the aggregate sum of £873 16s.

The Castledawson Riot.

A letter appeared in the *Daily Chronicle* of February 10 in which Mr. Muldoon, the Nationalist member for East Cork criticised the action of the Rev. R. Barron, the Presbyterian minister of Whitehouse, Belfast, in connection with the recent Castledawson outrage as a result of which members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians were sent to prison. Mr. Muldoon alleged that Mr. Barron's statements after the attack on the Sunday School procession and at the Assize trial were inconsistent. Mr. Barron's reply which appeared in the *Daily Chronicle* of February 13, is as follows:—

To the Editor of the *Daily Chronicle*.

“Sir,—My attention has been drawn to Mr. Muldoon's letter in your issue of Monday, February 10, upon my action in regard to what is known as the ‘Castledawson incident.’

“It is stated that at the trial I said I saw no injuries to women or children. It is added that at the trial I was unable to give the name of a single injured child. Both of these statements are exactly contrary to the facts. At the first trial I did say that several women and children were hurt, but not till afterwards—when visiting my con-

gregation—did I find that some had been struck with pikes. On November 26, 1912, two weeks before the assize trial, I sent to the Crown authorities a list containing the names of ten men and fifteen women and children suffering from injuries and severe shock. At the trial the counsel for the prisoners objected to my giving this list of injured persons, and, to everyone's astonishment, the Crown allowed this contention; it was therefore impossible for me to give evidence on the subject. Nor did they, as might have been expected, summon any of the injured persons as witnesses. When the Crown authorities took this extraordinary course one cannot blame the judge for assuming that no such evidence was available.

"I now send a list of those injured, and the names of several others could be added, but they shrink from the possibility of their names appearing in print. It is said that I only produced this list seven months after the incident and three months after the trial. Your correspondent must be aware that from the time of the first trial up till the middle of December, when the case was heard, it would have been gross contempt of court for me to write letters to the Press upon a case which was still *sub judice*, and it is not three months, but less than two, since the trial took place, and, as I have said, this list was given to the Crown authorities in November before the assizes.

"As I stated at the trial, when I asked the judge to deal mercifully with the prisoners, I have no desire to keep up bitterness or ill-feeling, and I should have been glad to let the matter drop; but when I find the English Liberal Press practically accusing me of lying, I am bound to vindicate my character as a minister of religion."

The list of injured which Mr. Barron supplied is as follows:—

Men:—

Silas Renwick, Whitewell Road—Stabbed through the hand by pike, and otherwise injured.

Samuel M'Kelvey, Manseview Terrace, Whitehouse—Stabbed on forehead by pike.

James Mitchell, Violet Cottage, Whitehouse—Stabbed on head by pike; his hat stabbed through in four places.

William E. M'Cullough, Daffodil Cottage, Whitehouse—Struck on the eye with some weapon.

Robert M'Clay, Beech Street, Whitehouse—Struck on the head with some weapon.

James Brennan, Erskine's Terrace, Whitehouse—Struck with bludgeon; severely injured.

Thomas Moore, Felden Terrace, Whitehouse—Struck with bludgeon.

William Finlay, Mount Street, Greencastle—Struck with stone.

John Harper, Greencastle—Struck with stone.

William Hamilton, Seaview, Greencastle—Knocked down, kicked, and severely injured.

Women and Children:—

Pearl M'Kelvey (aged 12), Cloughfern House—Struck with stone; severely injured.

Maggie Birney (16), Cement Cottage, Greencastle—Struck with stone; severely injured.

Sarah Brennan (17), Parkmore Street, Whitehouse—Knocked down and kicked.

Margaret Humphreys, Lower Whitehouse—Struck with pike, rendered unconscious, and carried into a house.

Lizzie Chancellor, Whitehouse—Struck and knocked down and kicked.

Suffered from Shock and Fright:—

Meta M'Crum (aged 8), Greencastle—Heart shock; in doctor's hands yet.

Kathleen Clarke (12), Greencastle—Suffered from nervous illness for weeks.

Lily Larmour (10), Greencastle—Very ill afterwards; is ill yet.

Annie Larmour (16), Greencastle—Very ill afterwards.

Agnes M'Cartney (9), Whitehouse—Had a fit; very ill afterwards.

Thomas M'Cartney (10), Whitehouse—Clothes torn; very ill afterwards.

Ruby Bruce (6), Longwood Terrace—Ill for weeks.

Mrs. Bruce Longwood Terrace—Ill for weeks; attended by doctor.

Mary Brennan (5), Erskine's Terrace—Trampled underfoot; hat covered with blood.

Annie M'Kelvey (10), Manseview Terrace—Very ill afterwards.

Writing to the *Belfast News Letter* on February 7, Mr. Barron states:—

“ If a public meeting were held in Belfast, I can produce all whose names are here given, with the mothers of the little children.

The following letter, signed by seven witnesses, which appeared in the *Northern Whig* on February 14th further proves the truth of Mr. Barron's statements:—

"We desire to state that we are teachers in the Whitehouse Presbyterian Sunday School who were present at Castledawson on the 29th June last, and witnessed the unprovoked attack on our Sunday School party.

"We certify that the list published by the Rev. Robert Barron of men, women, and children who were injured by the Hibernians is correct in every particular, and might be much enlarged. (Signed).

"John J. Elliot, Ashley Cottage, Greencastle, Belfast.

"William Hamilton, Seaview, Greencastle, Belfast.

"James Elliott, 16, Mount Street, Greencastle.

"Hugh Smith Harper, 3, High Street, Greencastle.

"William Finlay, 15, Mount Street, Greencastle.

"James Pherson, Carrowdore Cottage, Whitehouse.

"William Harper, 6, Plantation Row, Whitehouse.

"Robert Brennan, 5, Old Post Office Row, Whitehouse.

—Whitehouse, Feb. 13.

At a meeting of the Belfast Presbytery on February 24, several persons who were injured in the attack, gave evidence of their injuries, stating that the police called on them and enquired the extent of their injuries. After five persons had given evidence (says the *Belfast News Letter*, February 25) the following resolution was passed:—

"That, having heard the statement of the Rev. R. Barron and others of the excursion party who were present at Castledawson on June 29th, the Presbytery are satisfied that women and children were seriously injured on the occasion, and desire to express their sympathy with him in regard to the misrepresentations and calumnies to which he has been exposed in the public Press and elsewhere in connection with the matter."

The Presbytery further resolved, on the motion the Rev. W. A. Watson, seconded by Rev. R. Duff,

"That the Presbytery appoint a committee with power to take such further action in relation to this matter as they might see right."—*Belfast News Letter*, February 25.

Nationalist Tactics.

The correspondence, a copy of which is appended, which recently passed between Messrs S. P. Connolly & Co., the solicitors to the Limerick Steamship Co., Ltd., and the proprietors of the *Munster News*, exposes another Nationalist libel.

Letter from Messrs. S. P. Connolly & Co., Solicitors, to Messrs. F. Counihan & Sons, Proprietors of the *Munster News*, Limerick.

“ 86, O’Connell Street,
“ Limerick.

“ February 8, 1913.

“ Dear Sirs,—On behalf of our clients, the Limerick Steamship Co., Limited, we are instructed to write as follows—In your issue of Wednesday, the 5th of February, 1913, there appears a letter headed ‘The Question of Creed,’ and signed ‘Toleration.’ In this letter charges of religious intolerance of the very gravest description are made against our clients in the course of carrying on their business as carriers by sea. We wish at once to state that there is in fact no foundation whatever for the suggestions made in that publication, and that the same is one mass of false and grossly unjust statements. Our clients feel that they are entitled to an immediate, full and frank apology for the gross wrong that the publication of this letter is calculated to do, and has done, to them; and we are instructed to inform you that if you publish on page three in the next two issues of your paper the enclosed apology and this letter and pay our client’s costs, they will take no further action in the matter. Failing the publication of such apology and this letter and payment of costs, we shall at once issue a writ claiming damages for the libel.”

“ Yours faithfully,

“ P. S. CONNOLLY & Co.

The *Munster News* thereupon inserted the following apology:—

“ APOLOGY.

“ In our issue of Wednesday last, February 5th, we published a letter under the heading—‘The Question of Creed,’ and signed ‘Toleration’ which contained very definite charges to the effect that no Catholic had the ghost of a chance of getting any position beyond the first or second step on the ladder of promotion in the employment of the Limerick Steamship Company, Limited, and that the bar of religious belief is sufficient to keep a man down to the mere clerk level in their service. We now find that there is absolutely no foundation in fact for such statements. We have been furnished by the Limerick Steamship Company, Limited, with the following information, which speaks for itself:—

“ As far as the Limerick Steamship Company’s Irish staff is concerned, the officials in receipt of a

salary of £100 per year and over are, namely, five Roman Catholics, as against two Protestants. Between £50 and £100 a year, twelve Catholics, against four Protestants. Under £50 per year, five Catholics, against three Protestants; or a total of twenty-two Catholics, against nine Protestants. The whole of the Lower Shannon Service are Roman Catholics. Of the seven Irish agents all are Roman Catholics. The accountant, cashier, auditor, and Company's solicitor are Roman Catholics. Between deep sea boats, river boats and barges we have five Roman Catholic masters and three Protestant masters. The whole of the company's capital is held by Irish people, a very large share of it being held in Limerick and within a few miles of Limerick.

“ In view of these facts we now tender to the Limerick Steamship Company, Limited, our most sincere apology for having allowed the said letter to appear in our issue. We unreservedly admit that there is absolutely no foundation in fact for the statements contained in same, and we earnestly urge such of our readers as may be customers of the Limerick Steamship Company, Limited, to realise that the company are an Irish Company and are carrying on their business without any religious intolerance whatsoever.”
—*Munster News*, Feb. 10.

Ireland under Liberal Rule.

Mr. Birrell, replying to Captain Craig, stated that the police authorities inform him that on the 16th inst. a bullock, the property of Mr. John Cullinan, was shot dead and another wounded on a farm at Fahee North, co. Clare; but there is nothing to show that any number of persons were engaged in the commission of the outrage. No evidence has yet been obtained to bring home guilt to any person, but the police are pursuing their enquiries. Two cattle drives and a few cases of injury to the walls have taken place in connection with this farm. . . .—*Parl. Deb.*, January 30. *Col.* 1476.

CAPTAIN CRAIG asked if the Chief Secretary's attention has been called to the charge delivered by Judge Bodkin at Ennis, co. Clare, on the 31st instant (reprinted in our last issue), in which he referred to the constantly occurring commission of outrages by the use of firearms; whether he has read that portion of the charge in which the judge refers to the practice in less civilised countries of establishing vigilance committees for the prompt punishment of criminals whom the ordinary law is powerless to bring to justice; whether he still refuses to give the law-abiding people in Clare adequate protection;

and whether he will sanction the establishment of vigilance committees by persons in Clare whose lives and property are attacked?

MR. BIRRELL: I have read a newspaper report of the charge of the learned judge referred to. There is a large extra force of police in the county, and special measures have been and are being taken for the prevention of outrage and for the protection of all persons who require it. I have no power to sanction the establishment of vigilance committees as suggested.

CAPTAIN CRAIG: Will the right hon. gentleman state whether he thinks that, in regard to its condition, Clare is the worst county in Ireland?

MR. BIRRELL: Undoubtedly a part of Clare is in a very bad condition.—*Parl. Deb.*, January 30. *Col.* 1477.

The Ulster "Rabble."

Compare Mr. Birrell's reference to the "stalwart men of Ulster" with the epithet used by Mr. F. Ogden, the Radical M.P. for the Pudsey Division, who at the annual meeting of the Gildersome Liberal Club on February 22, 1913, said:—

"There was a public opinion not only in England, but in Scotland, Wales and in Ireland itself that it would take more than the seditious talk of Privy Councillors and the display of dummy guns and semi-military operations among **the rabble of Ulster** to convince the people of England that the cause of justice to Ireland ought to be defeated."—*Yorkshire Observer*, February 24, 1913.

Mr. Ogden has not yet learnt that the Radical policy for the moment, is politeness to Ulster.

Mr. Keating's Inaccuracy.

A startling example of the deliberate misrepresentation upon which Home Rulers rely for their arguments is provided by a speech of Mr. Keating, the Nationalist M.P. for South Kilkenny, who, speaking at Salford on February 2, 1913, said:—

"As another rough test of prosperity, let them take the returns of income tax per head of the population. In Dublin the amount paid per head was 23s., in Cork it was 11s. 6d. and in prosperous Belfast is was only 10s."—*Manchester Guardian*, February 3, 1913.

This statement was made despite the fact that the Chancellor of the Exchequer in giving the figures stated:—

“The figures do not convey any indication of the tax actually contributed by the population of the various cities referred to inasmuch as owing to the system of collection at the source, large amounts of income belonging to other parts of Ireland are centrally assessed in Dublin.”—*Parl. Deb.*, December 9, 1912. *Col.* 51.

As this statement was made in the House of Commons in reply to a question by Mr. Flavin, there is no excuse for Mr. Keating's deliberate misrepresentation of the facts.

Home Rule and Insurance.

At a meeting of the Co. Kilkenny Insurance Committee on February 4th, Mr. Harrington stated that as nearly all public bodies in Ireland had passed resolutions condemning the House of Lords for rejecting the Home Rule Bill, he wished to propose that a similar resolution be passed by that Committee.

Dr. Mitchell seconded, and said that in view of the statements recently made by Lord Lansdowne and other members of his party, that Home Rule was not wanted, and that the people were not looking for it, it was only right that every public body should pass a resolution and show that they did want it.

The resolution was passed unanimously.—*Kilkenny People*, Feb. 8.

What has the Home Rule Bill got to do with the administration of the Insurance Act? The action of the Co. Kilkenny Insurance Committee illustrates the extent to which politics enter Irish public life.

Australia and Home Rule.

Sir Edward Carson, (states the *Morning Post*, February 4th) has received the following telegram from the Ulster and Loyal Irishmen's Association, Melbourne: “Australia Day, Protestant demonstration, thirteen trains, thousands present. Resolved: ‘We charge our brethren of the North to stand fast against the forces of disunion and treason, to be true to themselves and to their heroic past. If trouble comes the loyalists of the Dominions will not forsake them. Uncompromising resistance will make victory certain.’—Snowball and Agnew, Ulster and Loyal Irishmen's Association, Melbourne.”

Ulster Leads the Way.

The appended statistics have been reprinted from our February issue and revised, with a note of the authorities for

them. They show Ulster's position in comparison with that of the rest of Ireland.

	ULSTER.	REST OF IRELAND.	
P.O. & Trustee Savings Banks—			
Depositors (1907) ..(1)	211,784	368,439	
	£	£	
Deposits (1907) (1)	5,841,337	7,247,820	
Customs Revenue (1911) (2)	2,373,933	914,594	
Imports and Exports from and to Foreign Countries and British Dominions only (not trade with Great Britain) (1911), (2)	9,987,599	6,652,743	
Rateable Value (1911) (3)	5,521,021	10,092,991	
Emigration (1902-11) per 1,000 of population (3)	6.7	9.2	
Housing (3).	Per cent.	Per cent.	
Percentage of occupiers of	1911.	1911.	
One room	3.2	7.6	
Two rooms	19.6	23.2	
Three rooms	20.4	30.5	
Four rooms	18.3	15.3	
Ratio to Population of Persons receiving Poor Law Relief (1911), (3) 1 in every	105	53	
Illiterates (per cent.) (3)	8.7	10.3	
BELFAST (4).	1783.	1891.	1912.
Population of Belfast	13,105	255,950	391,051
		1893.	1912.
Valuation of Belfast	£741,000	£1,543,919	
Funds of three Banks with Head Offices in Belfast	1892.	1911.	
Amount Collected in Belfast by Customs and Inland Revenue Depts.†	£14,797,285	£25,107,600	
	1892.	1911.	
	£3,250,000	£4,915,377	
	1893.	1911.	
Tonnage of Vessels clearing from Belfast ..	2,002,629	2,841,553	
	Belfast.	Dublin.	Cork.
Local Taxation (in the £)*	7s. 1d.	10s. 3d.	10s. 6d.

(1) House of Commons Paper, No. 49, of 1909.

(2) Annual Statement of Trade, 1911, Cd. 6336.

(3) Census Returns, 1911.

(4) Report of Belfast Chamber of Commerce on the Home Rule Bill, 1912.

* Excluding Water and Poor Rate. † These figures are more than double those for the rest of Ireland, and are surpassed by no other city in the United Kingdom except London, Liverpool and Bristol.

PAT FORD AND BOMBS.

Sympathy for Hindoo Assassins.

Resolution passed by the National Directory of the United Irish League, Dublin, Mr. John Redmond, M.P., in the chair. Proposed by Mr. John Dillon, M.P., and seconded by the Very Rev. John M'Cartan, P.P.:—

“That this Directory of the National Organisation of Ireland desires to place on record its profound and grateful appreciation of the immense services rendered to the cause of Ireland by Patrick Ford, of New York, and the great journal which he controls—the Irish World—and on the occasion of the celebration of the fortieth anniversary of the appearance of the first copy of the Irish World, on behalf of the Irish people, we tender to Patrick Ford our heartfelt congratulations, and send him greeting and warmest wishes for his good health and prosperity. That the Secretary be authorised to cable this resolution to Patrick Ford.”—Freeman's Journal, Sept. 16, 1910.

We reproduce the following extracts from recent articles in the *Irish World*—the paper referred to in the above official resolution of the Irish Nationalist Party.

We are convinced that they will be read with indignation, and we commend them to our readers as the views of a man whom Mr. John Redmond acclaims as one “who, through his newspaper, the *Irish World* has done more for the last thirty or forty years for Ireland than almost any man alive.”—*Freeman's Journal*, September 9, 1909.

The first quotation is from an article in the *Irish World* for January 4, 1913, by Robt. Ellis Thompson, under the title of

WARSHIPS AND A BOMB.

... “What is more natural than that some fanatical Moslem of the uncompromising sect of the Wahabees—one of whom killed Lord Mayo in 1872—should seek to avenge the honour of Delhi by an act which would destroy

the Viceroy who had planned all this, and was come to execute it? And how many such acts may be expected as resulting from the transfer of the capital from sleepy, cowardly Bengal to the very focus of Moslem fanaticism?

“ . . . It was the ryot (the Hindoo native) who paid for the great durbar at Delhi in honour of the King and Queen of Great Britain. It is the ryot who has been paying for the series of lesser durbars, which Lord Hardinge has exacted before and since that at Delhi. . . .

“ So England is to add eleven ships of war out of the pitiful earnings of the Hindoo tillers of the soil, from whom she has taken away every other occupation, that her tradesmen may be busy and rich. Every stroke of a hammer on those ships will stand for a Hindoo curse, and every sheet of armour will mean the hunger of a native village. . . .”

The second extract which we reproduce in full is from the *Irish World* of January 11, 1913, and is as follows:—

INDIA'S UNREST.

BOMB THROWING AS A MEANS OF DISPLAYING ANTIPATHY TO BRITISH RULE—SOME RESULTS.

“ Native disaffection of British rule combined with a concerted defiance of the invader's authority have long worried the ruling classes in India. Spasmodic efforts of native resistance have been of common occurrence. The latest attempt was the narrow escape of Lord Hardinge, the Viceroy, from meeting his death from a bomb thrown in his carriage during his attendance at a recent durbar held in Delhi.

“ In 1908 there was revealed the existence of a wide-spread conspiracy, which included a plot to remove Lord Minto and other high Government officials.

“ Narendo Gath Gossain, one of the conspirators, turned King's evidence, only to be shot within a few days by two of his thirty fellow-prisoners.

“ Toward the latter end of 1908, attacks on British officials became of almost daily occurrence. One of those singled out was Public Prosecutor Hume, of Calcutta, who has embittered himself by his activity in suppressing the nationalist movement. On one occasion a bomb loaded with dum-dum bullets was thrown at a railway carriage in which he was travelling. A month later two more attempts on his life were made.

“ In July, 1909, the nationalists carried the fight

into the very heart of England herself. Lieut.-Col. Sir William Hutt Curzon-Wyllie, who was political aide-de-camp to Viscount Morley, Secretary of State for India, in 1901 (?), was shot by Dr. Zalcach, a young Indian student, at a reception held at the Imperial Institute, London. Dr. Zalcach was tried and hanged in short order for his act.

“ Four months later two bombs were thrown at the Earl of Minto, while he was driving in the streets of Ahmedabad.

“ In November, 1908, the situation became so grave Lord Minto had to cut short a tour in the north in order to cope quickly with the native di-affection. Once looked upon as the meekest and most timid inhabitants of India, the Bengalis were showing themselves capable of being driven by desperation to acts of furious violence.

“ A bill for the speedier trial of persons implicated in plots and political offences was passed early in December, 1908, and the police started at once a rigorous campaign of repression. They commenced raiding the houses of many Bengalese, searching for correspondence, arms and bombs.

“ How did this change come about? The answer, although Britain's ruling classes stubbornly shut their eyes to it, is patent to outsiders. The sight of thousands starving in one of the richest countries of the world; the ever-increasing taxation placed by the government; the arrogant conduct of British officials; the repressive methods employed to stifle national sentiment—these, together with an arising spirit of nationality, patriotism and manhood—all are combining in the natives into an ardent passion to overthrow and exterminate British rule in India.”

Mr. John Redmond has yet to convert his American supporter to his latest views—the professions of loyalty and Imperialism which have decorated his more recent speeches.

AFTER WALSH'S FORT.

Crowning Honour for its Defender.

(By permission of the Daily Express.)

The glorious future which awaits Ireland and Irishmen when Home Rule comes into existence has been painted so often and in such gorgeous colours that it is a sheer delight to be able to taste beforehand some of the pleasures to come. The following little story enables one to share in these joys of anticipation.

There is in Castleisland, Co. Kerry, a Parish Committee appointed under the Congested Districts Board. Among the functions of that body is the granting of money for the erection and improvement of dwelling-houses and out-offices. It will thus be seen that the Committee plays no unimportant part in the life of the district. These powers enable it to distribute its favours according to the worth of its recipients. It can make the rain to fall upon the just. It can deprive the unjust of that beneficent irrigation. The supervisor of this body, by his title presumably the regulator of the Committee's bounty, is Mr. Richard J. Walsh. He was appointed by the Committee, and his appointment was confirmed by the Congested Districts Board. It is of interest to note in passing that Mr. Birrell is a member of the Board. Who is Mr. Richard J. Walsh: what are his qualifications for the office? They would seem to be absolutely unimpeachable. He is a man who has for years sturdily refused to pay his rent. When the law intervened to make him pay it he fortified his dwelling, which now occupies an honoured place in the Nationalist annals of Ireland under the martial title of "Walsh's Fort." In that stronghold he kept the armed forces of the Crown at bay and inflicted severe injuries upon the minions of British justice. He has formed the subject of innumerable questions and some discussions in the House of Commons. On December 30th, 1912, this fine citizen crowned his honoured career by being fined for intoxication in the local Police Court. This is the gentleman whom Castleisland has placed in an honourable and responsible position, whom the Congested Districts Board have

pronounced, by their sanction, to be eminently adapted for the discharge of difficult and delicate duties. He is in effect the honoured representative of the Chief Secretary for Ireland in Castleisland, Co. Kerry.

There is another member of the Committee, Mr. Peirce Gun Mahony. Mr. Mahony is a considerable landowner in the district. He was one of the first to offer to sell his land to his tenants under the Land Act. He made such generous terms that he obtained the rare distinction of a vote of thanks from the United Irish League. But Mr. Mahony is the landlord to whom Mr. Richard Walsh, the Supervisor of the Committee, refused for years to pay his rent. It is perhaps from a delicate desire not to impose upon Mr. Walsh the awkwardness of meeting a gentleman to whom he owes large sums of money (though to do him justice Mr. Walsh is probably made of sterner stuff than that) that the Committee have never summoned Mr. Mahony to their deliberations, although he is by the law of the land an ex-officio member of the Committee.

Observe then the situation. The landowner who has been generous and just to his people is illegally debarred from taking any part in the administration of affairs in the district. The man who has broken the law, who has opposed violence to the King's servants, who has figured as a drunken defendant in the Police Court, this is the man whom Mr. Birrell and the Congested Districts Board have set up to decide who in Castleisland are to receive grants for the improvement of their dwelling-houses and who are not. Mr. Birrell admits that the facts are as stated. He admitted it in the House of Commons and what is his excuse? That when Mr. Richard Walsh's appointment was confirmed by the Congested Districts Board they were not aware of his antecedents. Not to put too fine a point upon it that statement is a deliberate untruth. Mr. Richard Walsh's record was known to every man in Ireland who was not an illiterate or an idiot, and it was specially well-known to Mr. Birrell himself. As has been said, he had been questioned time and again as to Mr. Richard Walsh. Now Mr. Walsh was appointed in 1911. In 1910 the Irish Attorney-General, Mr. (now Lord Justice) Cherry, announced in the House of Commons that the defenders of Walsh's Fort would be sent to trial at the Assizes. Speaking of the engagement at that spot Mr. Birrell declared that the police had to face a fierce and well armed force, and on June 23rd he complimented the police on the courage and good temper they displayed under great and outrageous provocation. And then Mr. Birrell has the hardihood to expect us to believe him when he tells us that the facts of Mr. Walsh's career were unknown

to him and his colleagues of the Congested Districts Board in the year 1911. These deeds have been done in Castleisland at the time when Nationalist Ireland is supposed to be on its best behaviour to earn some reputation for decency in order to enable wavering Liberals to reconcile their Party duty with their private conscience. If such things are possible under such circumstances, what will not be possible when the Bill has become an Act, when self-government has been given and can never be revoked, and when the necessity for even a pretence of decency has passed away.

The Official Version.

The following is the official statement made in the House of Commons regarding Mr. Walsh's career.

MR. NEWMAN asked the Chief Secretary for Ireland if he is aware that Richard J. Walsh, who has been appointed as the secretary of the Castleisland Parish Committee, under the Congested Districts Board for Ireland, was one of the fifteen men who were brought before the magistrates at Castleisland Petty Sessions charged with unlawful assembly, riot, and assaults on and resistance to the police and the sheriff, a part of which consisted of flinging boiling tar and lime into their eyes when executing a writ from the High Court of Justice in Ireland; is he aware that Richard J. Walsh declined to pay his rates, and that when the rate collector seized his corn for unpaid rates it was removed by force, and nothing recovered; and, seeing that Richard J. Walsh was also fined on 30th December last for being drunk, will he say if this appointment has been sanctioned by the Congested Districts Board?

MR. BIRRELL: The facts are substantially as stated. Mr. R. J. Walsh was appointed secretary (without remuneration) by the Castleisland Parish Committee, and the appointment was sanctioned by the Congested Districts Board on 14th June, 1911. The facts mentioned in the question were not before the Board at the time. The appointment is an annual one, and the question of Walsh's reappointment will come before the Board at their next meeting.—*Parl. Deb.*, February 4. *Col.* 1988.

PEERS AND THE BILL.

Trenchant Criticism by Home Rulers.

Several extracts from speeches in the House of Lords on the occasion of the Second Reading of the Home Rule Bill are appended. It will be noticed that some of the most trenchant criticisms of the present Bill come from Home Rule peers. This only emphasises the fact that many people who are enthusiastic Home Rulers find it impossible to support the principles of the present Bill, which, while granting to Ireland neither the responsibility nor the power of a self-governing colony, gives her much more power than is compatible with the grant of local autonomy.

THE MARQUIS OF CREWE: “. . . In conclusion I should like to ask noble Lords opposite in all seriousness, Do they look forward with satisfaction, or even with calm, to the future of Ireland if they succeed in destroying this Bill? Noble Lords and their friends draw tremendous pictures of half Ulster in revolt against the Irish Government. Have they attempted to figure what would be the feeling and conceivably the action of the majority of the Irish people if they had to admit that the road of Parliamentary action was finally closed? It would be no case of frantic uprising of Republican conspirators, but the organised demand of a large community, very likely associated with no disloyalty to the Crown or to the Constitution of the Empire, backed as it would be by the sympathy of an equality if not a majority of their fellow-citizens in Great Britain, and possibly finding expression in Wales, which would make the administration of Ireland practically impossible.”—*Parl. Deb.*, Jan. 27. *Col.* 436.

LORD ASHBY ST. LEDGERS:—“I admit that there is another great fact—the fact of the position of Ulster. I admit that nobody on this side, either here or in another place, has denied the reality of the Ulster position. . . .

“We should consider no price too large to pay for a settlement by consent.”—*Parl. Deb.*, Jan. 29. *Cols.* 625-6.

LORD WEARDALE:—“We have to remember that profound changes have been introduced into Ireland itself, largely, almost wholly, due to the efforts of the Party opposite

(Unionist) to whom I wish to give the utmost credit in this matter, by the passage of Mr. Wyndham's Land Purchase Act. That Act has, I hope, given a fair prospect of a complete settlement of the agricultural discontent which was one of the most potent causes of the inflamed public feeling when last this question of Home Rule was under review. . . . It is an unquestioned fact that certain portions of this Bill were never discussed in the House of Commons. More than that, I fear we must all admit—and it is a fault and responsibility which falls on both sides in this matter—that the new rule of the House of Commons with regard to time limit, to the "Kangaroo" system, and also to the guillotine, have so hampered free discussion and rendered it so difficult that it has in many cases, I know, made Members who would otherwise have taken an active part in the business of the House of Commons refrain altogether from so doing. . . .

. . . A no less serious responsibility rests upon the Government. The Government ought, as it appears to me, to leave wide open the door for conciliatory overtures of all kinds. . . . It would be a gross mistake if the Government, in obedience to a somewhat too eager section of their supporters, were to hold the Parliament Act as a sword of Damocles over the head of the Conservative Party."—*Parl. Deb.*, Jan. 30. *Cols.* 737-9.

LORD MACDONNELL: "I agree with my noble friend Lord Dunraven that there is a good deal in the Bill which needs amendment. . . . I confess I am dissatisfied with the finance of the Bill."—*Parl. Deb.*, Jan. 27. *Col.* 485.

LORD SHEFFIELD: "I have never been a Home Ruler. I believe in the unity and central Government of this country. . . . I would not support any Bill which did not give ample securities for the direct and effective supremacy, not only of the Parliament of this country, but the general Executive of this country. . . . The Bill, I admit, does not give all the securities it ought to give to individuals. . . .

"I quite agree, therefore, with people who have said that this Bill is no help to federation, but is an obstacle to it. The Bill is not constructed on federal lines, and if we are ever to come to federation, the first thing we should have to do would be to repeal this Home Rule Bill which is now before us. . . ."—*Parl. Deb.*, Jan. 30. *Cols.* 762-7.

LORD BRASSEY: Ulster bars the way: Mr. Asquith and his colleagues have admitted that the Ulster difficulty is real and grave."—*Parl. Deb.*, Jan. 28. *Col.* 567.

THE EARL OF DUNRAVEN: “. . . I have said what I can on the general principle of Home Rule, and why I am so strongly in favour of it, but when I contemplate the way in which principle is set out in the Bill, I am afraid I have nothing favourable to say.

“. . . I do not think the Bill provides a sufficient check on administration. It ought not to be necessary, but it is necessary now. The Ancient Order of Hibernians is a very formidable body. It is returned under the Insurance scheme as consisting of 130,000 members; it is a purely Catholic society, a secret society. It is no menace to Great Britain, but it is a menace to good administration in Ireland. It is not out for blood; it is out for plunder. It is a predatory association, prowling about for jobs under the cloak of religion. It will die out in time, because its policy and methods are contrary to all that is best and strongest in the Irish character. But it is well organised, powerful, and rich, and when Protestants and Unionists in the North see the way in which Catholics and Nationalists in the South have been treated by this society, simply because they objected to the methods of the society, and because they stood for good administration and fair play, and for Ireland for all Irishmen—I can quite understand that the Protestants and Unionists in the North, when they see the way that men like Mr. O’Brien have been treated, are uneasy, and I think they have got ground for uneasiness.

“When you bring in what the Prime Minister calls his larger scheme, then if this Bill has become law this Bill will have to be repealed because this Bill is an absolute bar to federalism. The Bill is a makeshift. It proceeds on no definite principle. It leaves such huge questions as fiscal autonomy, independence, repeal of the Union, or a federal union to be thrashed out by the two Parliaments. It makes for friction, not for a settlement. It is not fair to the Irish people. It does not give an Irish Parliament a hundred to one chance, strive as it may.”—*Parl. Deb.* Jan. 27. *Cols.* 480-4.

IRISH DIARY.

- February 1.**—Right Hon. Sir J. Simon, K.C., M.P., at Woodford.
- February 7.**—Right Hon. A. Birrell, K.C., M.P., at Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Mr. J. Redmond, M.P., and Mr. J. Dillon, M.P., at Dublin.
- February 10.**—Mr. J. Redmond, M.P., at Waterford.
- February 11.**—Right Hon. Winston S. Churchill, M.P., and Mr. J. Redmond, M.P., at Luncheon to Mr. D. Hogg, M.P., London.
Right Hon. A. Birrell, K.C. M.P., at Bristol.
- February 14.**—Right Hon. Walter H. Long., MP., at Rugby.
- February 15.**—Right Hon. A. Birrell, K.C., M.P., at Warrington.
- February 19.**—East Antrim By-Election :—
Major McCalmont (U.) returned unopposed.
Chorley By-Election :—
Sir H. Hibbert (U.) 7573
Mr. J. P. T. Jackson (L.) 5606

Unionist majority 1967

No charge.
- February 27.**—Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., at Dublin.

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