

as favouring protection, and as desirous of a largely increased population, but rather by means of the introduction here of capitalists than by an indiscriminate immigration, for which the Colony was not as yet prepared. Mr. Bracken took a hopeful view of the indebtedness of the Colony, and brought forward some very telling figures in support of his statement that there was nothing, after all, so very alarming in the large amount in question.—A vote of thanks and confidence was carried unanimously.

THE *Nation*, in an article on the mission of the Redmond Brothers, bears the following testimony to the abiding faithfulness, and patriotism of our Irish colonists:—It would be difficult to exaggerate the services of the Messrs. Redmond in Australia, to speak too highly of the moral and intellectual qualities they displayed in their campaign there, or to over-congratulate them on the splendid results of their labour; yet it remains to say that the merit is not all theirs. If they pleaded for Ireland in a manner worthy of the Irish cause, it is no less true that they found a ready and enthusiastic response from the noble-hearted Irish exiles of the Antipodes. The action of those exiles, indeed, during the campaign, appeals with a peculiar pathos to Irishmen at home. Separated by thousands of miles of ocean from their native land, expecting—most of them—never to see Ireland again, having all their hopes in life bound up in the country of their adoption, and surrounded by a population that sympathises with the enemies of Irish nationality, they still turn fondly back in imagination to the home of their fathers, they are still true to the instincts of Irish patriotism, and at the call of motherland never fail to give generously out of their abundance or their poverty, as the case may be, for the extinction of British tyranny and the establishment of blessed freedom amongst the kindred they have left behind. Englishmen are accustomed to sneer at and denounce the victims of their oppression and rapacity in this island for the "foreign" aid they receive from abroad. That "foreign" aid is a cause of intense pride as well as gratification to those who receive it, and it reflects honour and glory on those who give it, and who by the very fact of giving it prove that centuries of mean and brutal oppression have not sufficed to extinguish in the Irish nature the highest and noblest instincts of humanity. We repeat that the response made by the Irishmen of Australia to the appeal of the Messrs. Redmond was ready and enthusiastic. In many places it was heard high above the clamour of opposition; in all places it breathed love for the old land and the old cause, and defiance of the worst efforts of the common enemy.

An exceptional opportunity is now offered to persons desirous of obtaining good hotel property—the Melville Hotel, at Timaru, about the best property of the kind ever offered for sale in South Canterbury, being in the market.

Dressmaking Department.—Mrs. Carter is now making dresses for 12s. 6d. If you have hitherto been unable to get fitted properly, give us a trial. Perfect fit. Newest styles. Satisfaction guaranteed. Splendid New Stock of Dress Materials and New Dress Trimmings. A really good article supplied at the lowest prices in the city. Carter and Co., Ready-Money Drapers, George Street, Dunedin.—[ADVT.]

The following paragraph appears in the *Paris*:—"According to the Khartoum correspondence of January 12 in the *Bosphore Egyptian* it is not impossible that Mr. O'Donovan, the famous *Daily News* correspondent, whose death has been announced, may have escaped the Hicks Pasha catastrophe. He owed his life to the fact of not wearing a uniform."

OTAGO LAND BOARD.—At Wednesday's meeting the license of T. B. Boulton and A. Gilbert for deferred payment sections, block II., Dart, was forfeited. It was resolved in the case of J. Henderson, sections 1 and 2, block XL., Swinburn, "That the sections be offered at auction at 20s per acre, with valuation for improvements." George Cockerill's application for grazing right, block II., Highlay, was referred to the district land officer. J. McPherson's license, section 3, block XII., Crookston, was forfeited. Consideration of Mrs. Greig's application for lease of ten acres township reserve at Kinlocks, was deferred for a week. "That G. Turnbull, J. M'Alister, and G. Sheath, Rankleburn and Glenkenich, be notified to attend the Board at its meeting on Wednesday, 21st May, to show cause why their licenses should not be forfeited for non-compliance with the conditions of their licenses as to personal residence." J. Le Fevre's application to purchase or lease section 53, block I., Otepopo, was referred to the County Council. Thomas Brook's application to purchase 12 acres, section 15, block I., Akatore, was referred to the ranger. Robert Ross's application to purchase section 17, block X., Waitahuna West, was approved. Tenders for perpetual lease were accepted as follows: John Graham, sections 6 and 7, block XIII. (136 acres each at 1s 8d); Thomas Livingstone, section 26, block XIII. (156 acres at 1s 9d); Patrick M'Atamney, section 4, block XVIII. (127 acres at 1s 6d); Blackstone; Robert M'Nally, section 25, block III. (181 acres at 1s 8d); Poolburn; David M'Ready, section 15, block V. (257 acres at 1s). Kyeburn; John Hamilton, section 7 (295 acres at 3s 3d, Lander; Gracie Jane Hamilton, section 8, block V. (295 acres at 3s 2d), Lander; and Thomas Hewston, section 5, block XIII. (165 acres at 1s), Tarras. William Dundass (200 acres deferred payment at 45s), section 28, block III., Poolburn. B. Johnston's application for reservation for mining outlets through sections in block XIII., Blackstone, was referred to the Chief Commissioner. Deferred-payment licenses were granted as follows: Thomas Howell, section 5, block XV., Maniototo; Thomas Healy, section 3, block IV., Swinburn; Joseph Ivings, section 15, block XII., Mount Hyde.

A DEAD MILLE FAILTHE.

(Dublin *Freeman*, March 15.)

Two young but representative Irish gentlemen landed at Queenstown on Saturday, to whom their country and the party of which they are members give a cordial "welcome home." After a lengthened absence, during which they travelled through Australasia and America on a National mission, the Messrs. Redmond have come back to swell the ranks of the Parliamentary body and to continue at home the earnest and useful work which they were engaged in before they set out, and which proved so fruitful abroad. We need hardly say that the greeting accorded to them by the deputations, on which were Mr. Davitt and Mr. Harrington, M.P., awaiting them on their arrival, was of the most cordial kind. The addresses made to them were happily worded, and the replies of the young gentlemen were very manly if modest, and indicate that their convictions and resolves in the cause of Ireland are strengthened by their experiences. Of the elder Mr. Redmond it is unnecessary to say anything in a country which does not forget. The younger, as he himself said, suffers only from his youthfulness, and that, if it be a fault, is one which mends every day. We believe that the organisation which the brothers Redmond have, in the face of difficulties which might deter older men, built up amongst their countrymen at the antipodes and in America is of immense moment—more valuable than even the substantial sums which they were enabled to remit in aid of the National movement—and must be reckoned with as a great factor in the demand for self-government and for the abolition of landlordism—by any statesman attempting to solve the Irish problem. The younger Mr. Redmond had, while away, an honour done him, and a recognition made to himself and his family of which he must be very proud. We refer to his election as successor to a young Parliamentarian who is a pillar of strength to his party in the representation of Wexford. The defeat of the distinguished O'Connor Don, the Whig candidate, by a boy sixteen thousand miles away, was an event not second in political import even to Mr. Healy's victory in Monaghan. We note that the elder Mr. Redmond's first words on his return are a declaration of unswerving allegiance to Mr. Parnell, and of faith in the lines of policy pursued by him as winning lines to sympathy outside and success at home. His emphatic denunciation of crime and outrage proclaims his belief that in no way can the noble cause which himself and fellows have at heart be more hindered or lowered than by acts of violence. We offer our best congratulations to the Messrs. Redmond, and wish them in common with their countrymen everywhere the happiness which merit brings, and which they have fairly won.

On Monday night a grand open-air demonstration took place in Cork to greet the Messrs. Redmond on their return to Ireland. It was a most imposing popular ovation, numbering several thousands, and including every class of the community. Tar barrels blazed at numerous points, and no less than six of the city bands joined in a monster torchlight procession. The reception accorded to the two hon. gentlemen was of the most enthusiastic character, and was in every way worthy of the patriotic people of the "beautiful City by the Lee." In the course of a happy and apposite address, Mr. J. E. Redmond braided as falsehood the statement by Mr. Archibald Forbes in the *Nineteenth Century* that he (Mr. Redmond) endeavoured to propitiate the loyal people in Australia by calling on them to cheer for the Queen, and he condemned the few in America who were opposed to Mr. Parnell, as advocates of a policy that could not be accepted by the Irish race.

A Loughrea telegram states that priests and people in the district have refused to pay the police tax, and that the authorities have threatened to put the full power vested in them for collection in force.

A false alarm of dynamite was caused in London on Saturday night, March 8, by the swinging of an open door of a third-class carriage on the Underground Railway, and the smashing of a window.

Mr. Henry George enjoyed a conspicuous success on Monday night, March 10, at the Guildhall, Cambridge. The celebrated economist had been announced to deliver a lecture, and hundreds of undergraduates were present intending to create a disturbance. Mr. George was received with some disturbance, but gradually fixed the attention of his audience. Having concluded his lecture, Mr. George was questioned at considerable length by prominent members of the university, and his answers were marked by great tact, readiness, and ability. A unanimous vote of thanks was then passed to Mr. George, and on leaving the hall, the undergraduates gave him three ringing cheers.—*Dublin Freeman*.

According to the *St. James's Gazette* uneasiness is spreading among certain circles in England in connection with Russia's occupation of Merv. Few are imposed on by the pretence that Russia's design in annexing the place is merely to secure an advantageous route from the Caspian Sea, and that the occupation of Merv is a final advance. Russia's designs on Afghanistan and through Afghanistan on British India have been patent to all statesmen for the last half century, and the dexterity with which she has outwitted successive English Cabinets is a chapter by itself in the history of diplomacy. On the present occasion there is no mistaking the Russian policy, for her Foreign Office has announced through Baron Jomini that the presence of English troops at Herat would be regarded as a menace to Russia's position in the East, and would cause action to be taken from her "new base of operations."

The Indian troopship *Euphrates*, which arrived at Portsmouth on her return from Bombay, reports that while the vessel was at Malta, on her outward voyage, a disturbance took place amongst the troops owing, it is alleged, to some complaint about the food, and so serious did it become that the marines had to be called upon to fix bayonets to preserve order. On the arrival of the vessel at Bombay several of the ringleaders were tried by court-martial, and sentenced to terms of penal servitude. About fifty malcontents broke out of the ship at Malta and bolted, but were recaptured.