

## MR. SEXTON ON THE VETO.

(From the London Standard.)

MR. SEXTON, M.P., speaking at a Parnell testimonial meeting, said that Mr. Parnell had gained the gratitude of the Irish people for the successful achievement of his great efforts in their cause. They were bound in gratitude to him not only for the losses he had sustained, but in vindication of his character, against which the foulest calumnies had been levelled, to make the testimonial one worthy of the nation. No obligation of the moral law forbade them to do that. No obligation of their secular or sacred duties forbade them to render gratitude to the man who had rendered such service to them. He predicted the speedy downfall of the Government through the action of the Irish Party. Both the English parties had learned that they must strike down Mr. Parnell, or he would set Ireland free. Alluding to the Pope's Circular to the bishops, he observed that it was addressed to the bishops, as affecting the conduct of the clergy only, but did not affect the laity at all. He was sure the laity would receive the Circular in a becoming manner. The laity had no right to intervene between the Pontiff and the Hierarchy, and even if he had such a right he would not be disposed to exercise it; but the laity who were the followers of Mr. Parnell, while speaking with all respect and reverence of the occupant of the Throne of Peter, were entitled to be heard in self-defence, in vindication of their own conduct. It was impossible for the Pope to acquire by direct knowledge a full sense of the condition of political events in Ireland, and he submitted that upon this occasion the Head of the Church had not received accurate information given in good faith, or upon which it was safe or sound to act. He agreed with the Chairman that it might become the duty of the Irish people to commission a deputation of competent and honest persons to proceed to Rome, and inform the Holy Father of the true nature of the matters of fact referred to, of the probable consequences of the Circular upon the future of Ireland, and especially its possible consequences upon the religious future of the people. If he himself were in Rome that night, he was sanguine he could considerably modify the judgment that had been passed. The Land League, the Holy Father should be informed, was based upon Constitutional action, and applied itself to Constitutional ends. It applied itself to the diminution and the cessation of violence, and Boycotting even was not declared illegal until after the League ceased to exist; but Boycotting itself tended rather to restrain violence by showing persons who might be disposed to strike with a strong arm of passion and revenge a calmer and less violent method of redressing their wrongs. As to the charge that no censures had been directed against the perpetrators of crimes, he said that the records of the Land League were strewn with condemnation of crime uttered by Mr. Parnell and others, and that Michael Davitt, the founder of the movement, was most urgent in his denunciation of crime; yet the Government had repaid him for that by putting him in prison. The Pope appeared to be under the impression that there was an excited feeling in Ireland in reference to the testimonial. This he denied. So far from exciting the people, it soothed them by being allowed to participate in an act of gratitude to one who had done so much for them, and to indemnify him for his losses. No one could say that any pressure was being brought to bear on any person to subscribe more than he wished, and on this point the paternal mind of the Holy Father, watchful as it ever was for the good of Ireland, had been greatly misled. The news of this Circular had been received in England with joy. It was regarded as an act of political service to the Minister who, in his pamphlet on Vaticanism, insulted the Holy Father and defamed the Catholic Church. It was received with sorrowful concern by the Irish people, who had suffered more for the Catholic Church than any nation, who had been the most ardent and generous supporters of the Chair of Peter, and the most conspicuous propagandists of religion. This was a sad result, and the English Press, while felicitating themselves on the Pope's aid, could not let the opportunity escape of sneering at them. He believed in the perfect truth of the statement that, so far as regarded Ireland, it was not for the good, either of the Papacy or of Ireland, that any endeavour should be made to use the authority of the Roman Catholic Church against what the English newspapers called Irish disaffection, but what he called active love of Ireland. He believed that the intellectual and faithful priests of Ireland when they received the Circular would know what the interests of Ireland and the cause of duty commanded. It was not for the laity to intervene between the clergy and their spiritual head, but laymen did not conceive their freedom of action to be affected by the Circular. They should regret if they were fated to endure it, to lose their most competent and most valuable allies in this or any other movement; but with allies or without them, the movement must go forward (prolonged cheers). Interests too sacred, too vast, embodying the fortunes of the people. were bound up in the person of Mr. Parnell in the cause which he advocated. They must not suffer his political power to be lessened, or his name to be defamed. They would pursue the movement until it not only proved the eternal solidarity of the Irish race wherever their lot was cast, but they would make it the most noble and the most conspicuous testimony of gratitude, thankfulness, and esteem ever given in the civilised world by a people to their leader (loud cheers).

Mr. Biggar, M. P., who moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, said he saw that Mr. Errington was likely to be Chief Secretary of the British Embassy at Rome. This would have one advantage, at least. It would take Mr. Errington out of Irish politics.

A large number of subscriptions was then handed in. Two priests were present during the proceedings, and frequently applauded. There were also three priests at the meeting of the National League.

Mrs. Keates, Kent House, Hanover street, Dunedin, is now holding a clearing sale of her excellent stock of drapery.

The Shag Point Coal Company have lately come on a seam of coal of a vastly superior quality, which may be ordered of all the local dealers at an exceedingly moderate rate.

## Commercial.

MR. DONALD STRONACH (on behalf of the New Zealand Loan and Mercantile Agency Company, Limited) reports for the week ending July 18 as follows:—

Fat Cattle were in full supply at Burnside to-day, 260 head having been yarded, consisting of medium to prime. Competition was fairly animated, but last week's prices were not obtained. Bullocks fetched from £5 2s 6d to £12 2s 6d; cows, £5 15s to £10 15s. We sold drafts on account of various vendors at from £5 10s to £8 for bullocks, and £5 15s to £7 2s 6d for cows. We quote prime beef at 25s, and medium at 20s to 22s 6d per 100lb.

Fat sheep.—1034 were penned. About 200 of these were merinos, and the balance cross-breeds of fair to prime quality. On account of the large supply forward last week, butchers were well supplied; and although prices were a shade higher to-day for prime quality, medium quality did not participate in the same advance. Cross-breeds brought from 14s 6d to 16s for prime, 9s 9d to 13s 6d for light and medium; merinos 8s 9d to 9s. We sold on account of the New Zealand Agricultural Company, 76 cross-bred wethers at 13s 6d, 178 do; ewes at 9s 9d to 12s 3d; Mr. H. Lindsey (Pukeuri), 64 cross-breeds at 12s; Messrs. Anderson Bros. (Waiwera); 62 do, at 12s 6d; and quote mutton at 2½d per lb.

Fat Lambs.—Thirty were forward, and sold at 7s each.

Fat Pigs.—Ninety-six were forward, and sold freely at from 15s up to 100s.

Sheepskins.—We submitted a full catalogue to a large attendance of the trade at our usual weekly sale on Monday. Competition was fairly active, and all the lots were cleared at about equal to last week's rates. Butchers' green cross-breeds fetched 2s 10d to 3s 10d; do do merinos, 2s 7d to 3s 7d; station and dry cross-breeds, 1s 6d to 3s 10d; do merinos, 1s 7d to 3s 9d; do in bales, 4½d per lb.

Rabbitskins.—We offered and sold at auction 2 bags at 7d, 2 do at 9½d, 3 do at 1s 2d, 1 do at 1s 3½d, 1 bale at 1s 4½d, 2 do at 1s 4½d per lb.

Hides continue in fair demand, and steady at recent rates. We cleared all to hand (about 150) at from 3d to 4½d for light and medium, and 4½d for heavy weights, free from cuts, cheeks, and offal.

Tallow keeps steady at late rates, especially well-rendered parcels. We sold on Monday, at auction, 8 casks prime at 32s 6d, 4 tins and 1 cask inferior and mixed at 22s to 27s, and rough fat at 21s per cwt.

Grain.—Wheat: Only prime samples meet with any demand at 4s 1d to 4s 3d. Ordinary qualities are almost unobtainable. Millers being sufficiently supplied in the meantime with this class—also the depression in the wheat market at Home—prevents shippers from offering. Quotations: Nominally, 3s 3d to 3s 9d; inferior and farmers' wheat, 2s to 3s. Oats in first-class condition, bright and sweet, maintain last week's prices, but of such the market is bare. There are, however, large stocks of very indifferent samples on hand, which vary in price, according to colour and quality, at from 1s 3d to 1s 7d; bright feed, 1s 8d to 1s 8½d; do. milling, 1s 9d to 1s 10d. The demand has materially slackened owing to the reduction in prices both in Sydney and Melbourne, consequent on the heavy stocks held in each of those centres, and sales during the week have been unimportant. Barley is not in pressing demand, although prime malting samples could be placed at from 4s 3d to 4s 6d; feed and milling at 2s 6d to 3s 3d.

Ryegrass Seed.—Demand still weak. We quote machine-dressed, 4s 3d; farmers' lots, 2s 9d to 3s 3d.

## PRODUCE MARKET, JULY 19, 1883.

MR. F. MEENAN, Great King street, reports:—Wholesale prices Oats, 1s 6d to 1s 10d per bushel; milling wheat, 3s 6d to 4s 3d per bushel; fowls' wheat, 2s to 3s 3d; barley, milling, 4s to 5s; mill ling, 3s to 3s 6d; feeding, 2s to 3s 9d; hay, oat, £4 10s per ton; rye-grass hay, £4; chaff, £3 10s to £4; straw, £2 5s to £2 10s; bran, £4 7s 6d; pollard, £4 15s; potatoes, £2 to £2 5s; oatmeal, £11 10s; flour, £10 to £11; fresh butter, medium to prime, 1s 2d to 1s 4d per lb., salt, easier, 10d per lb.; eggs, 1s per dozen bacon, sides, 8½d per lb.; rolls, 8d; hams, 10d; pork, 5d; cheese 6½d.

MESSRS. MERCER BROTHERS, Princes street, report:—Fresh butter (in ¼-lb. and 1lb. prints), best quality, 1s 4d per lb.; ordinary butter, 1s per lb.; eggs, 10d per dozen; roll bacon, 7½d per lb.; good salt butter, in kegs, 8d per lb.; cheese 6d, per lb.

The Wexford demonstration was one of the largest and most enthusiastic that has been held in the country for a considerable period. Many thousands were present, and among those who attended were Mr. Leamy, M.P., and Mr. Kenny, M.P. That veteran patriot, the Rev. Canon Doyle, of Ramsgange, occupied the chair, and in his opening speech he condemned, in characteristically strong terms, the "no-priests-in-politics" policy. He declared that it would be a woful day when the enemies of Ireland, either in Rome or at Home, could succeed in separating the priests of Ireland from their fellow-countrymen. The resolutions, which were carried unanimously, expressed the utmost confidence in Mr. Parnell, advocated the establishment of a branch of the Irish National League in every parish, described the condition of the Irish agricultural labourer as most unsatisfactory and miserable, upheld the policy of paying the Irish Parliamentary representatives, and censured in the most emphatic manner the insidious attempts which are being made to mislead the Pope as to the real state of affairs in Ireland.—*Nation*.