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## Dublin Notes.

(From contemporaries.)

THE Empress Frederick, accompanied by the Princess Henry of Battenberg, before leaving London paid a visit to the branch of the Irish Industries Association, 20 Motcomb street, Belgrave Square. Both the royal ladies made several purchases of lace and embroideries. Her Majesty and Princess Beatrice, expressed themselves greatly pleased with the various kinds of work made by the cottagers in Ireland, for whose benefit the Association has been working for five or six years. The Queen has also shown a recent interest in the work of the Association.

Lord Dufferin has now seen through the Press the selection of his mother's songs set to music, which Mr John Murray is to publish. This will be a companion volume to the edition of her verse which appeared last summer. Helen Lady Dufferin was as gifted a musician as she was a poet, and set most of her own songs to music. Of those in the coming volume only two or three have music by others. "Dublin Bay," one of her best-known songs, she set to the familiar old English melody of "The Last Rose of Summer." Among the other songs given are "The Irish emigrant," "The charming woman," and "The fine young English gentleman."

During Mr Davitt's short stay in Parliament he was on more than one occasion protected by the Speaker in a manner that evoked his regard for that gentleman. When delivering his maiden speech, a Colonel Brookfield interrupted him, and asked the Speaker whether he was in order in "reading" his speech. Mr Davitt, with but one hand, had some difficulty in dealing with his notes, and to this was due the intervention of the "gabant" Colonel. Mr Peel said that as he was thus invoked he was bound to express his opinion, and that was to the effect that the hon. member (Mr Davitt) was merely following a well-known and common custom of availing himself of notes. The tone of the ruling was put by all as a snub for Mr Brookfield, and was loudly cheered. Later on when Lord Cranborne, the heir of the Marquis of Salisbury, referred in an undertone to Mr Davitt as a "murderer," the Speaker exacted a prompt withdrawal, and later on counselled that the incident should be allowed to close, and the expression of the "noble lord" left to the "contempt it so richly deserved."

A special feature in the post-prandial programme of the St Patrick's national banquet, held at the Holborn Town Hall, under the presidency of Mr Justin M'Carthy, M.P., was a new patriotic song, intensely emotional and redolent of Hibernian sentiment, composed by Mr William Allan, M.P., the member for Gateshead, and rendered for the first time in public on that occasion by Mr Lloyd Chandos, a new vocal artist with a rapidly rising reputation. The music, which is described as exceptionally appropriate and distinctively popular in character, is written by Mr Isidore de Lara. Mr Allan has received warm congratulation from his Irish friends on his felicitous contribution to the storehouse of Irish national song.

Mr Stannard M'Adam, agent of Colonel O'Callaghan's Bodyke estate, succumbed on March 12 to an attack of typhoid fever, which it is supposed he contracted in Dublin little over three weeks before. Mr M'Adam's connection with the Bodyke estate dated from 1891, after the position had been surrendered by two former agents owing to the impossibility of collecting rent from the unfortunate tenants who were bordering on starvation. Since then periodical attempts to seize have been made, and at times some exciting scenes were witnessed during the deceased agent's tenure of office. As a cyclist Mr M'Adam was one of the best known men in the South of Ireland, at different times winning coveted prizes, such as the Ten Mile Championship of Ireland, which he placed to his credit so far back as '83, while in the following year he won the Twenty five Miles Championship at Ballsbridge, eventually securing the Fifty Miles Championship in 1891. He was an enthusiast in the football field up to some years ago, but till the last he took the greatest interest in the successes of the local team.

Dr Douglas Hyde, that most able and capable student of early Gaelic literature, is the author of a charming work on the subject just issued in the new Irish Library series. He deals with the Mythological, the Bed Branch, and the Fenian cycles, devotes special care to the early romances, the later annals, the Christian writers, and the Danish periods. It will be observed by those who peruse the work that he differs from O'Donovan and O'Curry regarding the mythological foundation of the Tuatha de Danaans. To Dr Hyde's mind other conclusions present themselves in accordance with those held by authorities in the past. If the field is a wide one, the scope within which to treat it is necessarily limited, but the author may be congratulated on the skill and scholarship displayed. Greater results may, we hope, yet be looked for from him.

Speaking at a meeting of the Cork Nationalist Society, of which he is president, Mr William O'Brien said Grattan's Parliament was of the landlord class, whereas, in the new Irish Parliament the humblest man in the country would have his place open to him as well as the proudest lord. The hon gentleman also declared that it was just possible in the designs of Providence that some of the little troubles of to-day might be the best means of fitting the Irish for the responsibilities of self-government when the time will come when it will be, of course, a most legitimate and wholesome thing that men should take different views, and that they should fight for their own particular programme in a manly and determined way. For the present, he believed the best all of us can do for Ireland is to keep all our forces together and to remember always the famous saying of Grattan, that we must either tolerate one another or tolerate the common enemy.

Writing in the *New Ireland Review* for March, the Rev. T. A. Finlay, S.J., says something "On behalf of our woollen Industries." The article contains much plain speaking addressed to those Irish ladies and gentlemen who, whether from carelessness or otherwise persist in attiring themselves in inferior materials of English and foreign manufacture. A strong appeal is also made to our Irish nuns and priests to support Irish industries, and some of the words of the rev writer on this point well deserve quotation. He says:—"If the clergy of Ireland entered into an understanding that they would use exclusively, or even chiefly, the satins, silks, poplins, and linens of Ireland in the sacred vestments of their churches, a remarkable change would soon be effected in the condition of many industries. And if this understanding were extended so as to insure that they would adopt the serges and cloths of Irish looms for their personal use, the change would attain the dimensions of an economic revolution."

The statistics of Irish crime are not the only figures of gloomy portent that fell to the lowest on record in 1894. The same is true, the Irish public will rejoice to learn, of the emigration statistics. Last year the number of emigrants was absolutely lower than in any year since 1851, and relatively lower than in any year except those three prosperous years, 1876-7-8, the rate of which was only slightly exceeded. The total was 35,959, all but 64 of whom were Irish born. It was large enough, but it was 12,287 lower than in 1893, nearly 15,000 lower than in 1892, nearly 24,000 lower than 1891. Less than half the total for 1888, and less than one-third the total for 1883. The tide is lessening none too soon. Even the most blood-thirsty of economic Sangrades should have his thirst slaked sufficiently by the blood-letting of Ireland. From May 1, 1851, to December 31, 1894, 3,602,425 natives of Ireland left the country to settle permanently in other lands. Munster lost 1,249,726—a number equal to 85.9 per cent of the average population for the period; Ulster, 1,038,689, or 55.9 per cent; Leinster, 660,495, or 47.5 per cent; and Connaught, 642,847, or 62.9 per cent. The figures from Munster predominate still. Last year the emigration rate from the province was 13.9 per thousand, as compared with 4.1 for Leinster and 3.9 for Ulster. As usual the mass of the emigrants were in the prime of life. 83.1 per cent of them were between the ages of fifteen and thirty-five years. 65.2 per cent of the men were described as "labourers." No one familiar with rural Ireland now will assert that there is an excess of good labour in the market. The 15,363 workmen who carried their