

residents on his removal to the mansion, Curragh Chase. The estate has an area of over 4,000 acres. Sir Stephen has been a resident of Foynes Island for thirty-five years.

When the evicted tenants on the Tower Hill estate, Cappamore, recently presented their checks to the National Bank, Limerick, for grants given by the Central Executive of the National League, they could not obtain the cash.

Buyers were not numerous at last Rathkeale fair, but there was a good supply of cattle. Prices were lower than at former fairs—Springers, best quality, realised from £15 to £19; inferior, £12 to £14; milch cows from £10 to £16; three-year-olds sold at £12 to £14; two-year-olds, £8 to £10; yearlings, £4 to £6; strippers and dry cows fetched from £7 to £10; best mutton, from 7d to 8d per lb; lambs, 25s to 45s each. The pig fair was well supplied, but prices were low—32s to 35s for best, and 30s to 32s per cwt.

**Longford.**—The baronies of Moydow and Ardagh, in the County Longford, have been proclaimed under the Coercion Act.

After last Mass a few Sundays ago the Ballymahon parishioners held a meeting in the chapel-yard, which was addressed by Fathers McGoey and McKeon. The meeting declared in favour of the Irish M.P.'s led by Justin McCarthy.

That the Balfour who is soliciting relief for the distressed people of the West Coast is the same relentless Coercionist as ever was proven by the prosecution of Patrick Lennon, Curraclarehan; Joseph Allard, Tashinny; Daniel Farrell and John Heey, Newtown; Thomas Farrell, Stonepark; Joseph Kgan, Ballagh, and G. W. Tully, of Boyle, on a conspiracy charge in connection with the Jessop estate.

**Louth.**—At a meeting of the Drogheda Board of Guardians it was proposed by James R. Drew, seconded by Ald. R. J. Kennedy, and carried—That we emphatically condemn the conduct of Mr. Parnell in this crisis of Irish affairs, when it is apparent he will trample under his foot every principle we value and every hope of our country in a desperate effort to retain a position which his country's needs required him to resign, and we tender our confidence to Justin McCarthy and those of his colleagues who remained true to Ireland.

**Queen's County.**—A numerous meeting of the Bathdowney National League was held, Father Brennan presiding, at which the following resolution was unanimously passed:—Resolved, That we shall ever recall with pride the patriotic action of the people of this district, who on Monday last gave such a *ceud mille failte* to the illustrious and self-sacrificing Michael Davitt, and on the same occasion showed their abhorrence of the conduct of the enemies and traitors of our country by driving Parnell from our town, amidst the howls and execrations of an outraged and indignant people.

At a meeting of the Killeslin Branch, Rev. J. Farrell presiding, the following resolutions were carried unanimously:—Proposed by J. Carey, seconded by Mr. Mullins—"That we view with dismay the deplorable division in the Irish National ranks, firmly believing the continuation of the present state of things must result in disaster to the Home Rule cause." Proposed by P. Brennan, seconded by Mr. Doolin—"That we have implicit confidence in the purity of motive and singleness of purpose of John Dillon and William O'Brien and that we strenuously support the policy of these gentlemen."

**Roscommon.**—The members of the Corrigenroe National League have called upon their representative, J. J. O'Kelly, M.P., to retire for supporting Mr. Parnell.

An eviction notice at the suit of the Right Hon. S. Wolfe Flanagan against Michael Kelly and John Kelly, of Knockhall, in the electoral division of Kiltglass North, has been served upon the local Union officers.

A very large meeting of the Ballyoughter club was held on Sunday week at Lugboy, to consider what steps should be taken in regard to the Parnell-O'Shea controversy. Edward Egan presided. A resolution in favour of the majority led by Mr. McCarthy was passed.

A Star-Chamber inquiry was held last week at Castlelea. William Britchard was committed to Castlebar Gaol for refusing to give evidence. A large number of other persons have been summoned. The inquiry is instituted for the purpose of getting information about the Plan of Campaign on the De Freyne estate.

**Tipperary.**—The members of Borrisokane National League branch at recent meeting declared in favour of Mr. Parnell, and warmly approve the action of P. J. O'Brien, M.P., in supporting him.

New Tipperary was illuminated in commemoration of the victory, and a bonfire was lighted on the square of the new town, at which John O'Connor was burned in effigy.

A despatch from Dublin, January 9, stated the people of New Tipperary were going back to the old town. It is also stated that to obtain funds to prevent a total depopulation of his new settlement has been one of Mr. O'Brien's chief objects in his Boulogne conferences with Mr. Parnell.

An exciting scene occurred recently at Carrick in connection with an attempt by the Parnellites to burn in the public streets some copies of Mr. Davitt's weekly newspaper. A body of anti-Parnellites, tradesmen, and labourers attacked the demonstration, and after a

sharp struggle put them to flight, some of the Parnellites being injured rather seriously in the *mêlée*.

**Tyrone.**—Mr. Clark moved, at last meeting of Omagh Union, that owing to the partial failure of the potato crop, and the very inclement harvest weather, in the opinion of this Board all the landowners within the Union should grant a reduction of thirty per cent. in this year's rent, so as to prevent many struggling tenants from becoming a burden on the poor rates. The resolution was adopted.

**Westmeath.**—At the first Mass on Sunday week in Mullingar, Most Rev. Dr. Nulty, who officiated, in his sermon spoke strongly condemnatory of Mr. Parnell.

It was announced at the Masses in Mullingar on a recent Sunday that the priest of the parish had arranged to say Mass once a fortnight for all those who keep the total abstinence pledge.

**Wexford.**—There were two resignations of anti-Parnellites at recent Ramsgrange National League meeting. The secretary was directed to communicate with the National Committee and inform them that the branch was under the guidance and control of the majority of the Irish Parliamentary Party.

A meeting of the Oylegate branch of the National League, Adam Kelly presiding, recently passed the following:—Resolved,—That in our opinion Mr. Parnell would best serve the interests of his country by retiring from the leadership of the Parliamentary Party, and allow them to unite again in face of a general election, and thus save us from being helplessly thrown to the tender mercies of a Tory Government for the next seven years.

### AS FIRM AS EVER.

ELSEWHERE we (*Irish World*), print extracts from a great speech delivered in Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, on January 13, by Mr. John Morley, one of the foremost leaders under Mr. Gladstone of the Liberal party of Great Britain. What Mr. Morley says is highly interesting and highly important in view of recent statements that British Liberals were "weakening" on the Irish question, and that Mr. Gladstone and the "other old women" of his party were manifesting a disposition to cheat Ireland out of an honest measure of Home Rule. There is no sign of weakening in John Morley. He is as firm as ever, and his party stand as firm as ever they did on the Home Rule question, and he tells us so in those very words. Here is his emphatic assurance on that point:—

"Do they (the Tories) suppose when they talk of dropping Home Rule, do they suppose that all that we have said during the last five years has been mere smoke in the air and foam upon the wave? No, gentlemen, we meant what we said, and I, for one, believe, and you, as the first audience that I have addressed since these distractions (the Parnell troubles) came upon us, will tell me whether I am wrong or not. I believe that the Liberal party stand as firm as they ever did to the convictions, to the principles, and to the professions which have been growing and strengthening for five years in their hearts, their minds and their consciences."

These words were cheered enthusiastically by the vast audience of Englishmen to whom Mr. Morley addressed them. With regard to the quality of the Home Rule which the Liberal leaders stand resolved that Ireland shall have we find satisfactory assurance in what Mr. Morley said on the one matter of the control of the police. We quote again from his speech.

"What would I do about the police? In 1886, what we proposed and what we provided for was the creation of a civil force under the control of local authorities—a civil police under the control of local authorities—and Mr. Gladstone expressly said in his speech in which he introduced the Home Rule Bill that we had no desire to exempt the police of Ireland from the control of the Irish legislative body. Gentlemen, if a community is not fit to have control of its own police it is certainly not fit to have Home Rule at all! But until the Irish Parliament had organised a civil police, the Lord-Lieutenant was to retain control of the present armed and semi-military force as a temporary and transitory measure, to bridge over the interregnum before the Irish Government had settled the question of its own police in towns and counties."

Mr. Morley observed that upon such a plan as this "rational Irishmen and rational Englishmen might both agree." We agree with him. We think the scheme entirely rational, and we cannot imagine why any sensible Irishman should find fault with it. Before the existing police force ought to be or could be disbanded another should be organised to take its place. It would hardly do to leave the country without any police force at all, and the work of organising a new one under the Irish Parliament would take some little time. This seems so plain and so reasonable that one would think argument in support of it to be entirely superfluous. Yet the charge has been iterated and reiterated against Mr. Gladstone that he did not mean to give the Irish the control of the police.

On many other points Mr. Morley's speech is gratifying and reassuring, supplying reassurance to have been necessary. We commend the extracts to the attention of our readers.