

Dublin Notes.

(Weekly Freeman, November 26.)

MR LABOUCHERE, M.P., speaking at Chelsea on Monday, said if a subservient House of Lords carried out Lord Salisbury's threat to throw out the Home Rule Bill, he would like to see a sufficient number of stalwarts added to the peerage to carry that Bill, and then to vote for the total abolition of that obnoxious body.

The rumour that Mr John Morley is examining the musty political records of Dublin Castle for a new book on the Union, is, says the *Globe*, not quite accurate. We are informed from Dublin that the Chief Secretary is actually engaged at this work, but his object is to present some of those documents to Parliament as State papers concurrently with the introduction of the Home Rule Bill.

An extraordinary act of heroism has been investigated by the committee of the Royal Humane Society, which has unanimously conferred its silver medal upon an Irishman, Thomas M'Dermott, chief boatswain of H.M.S. Swallow, for saving Charles Lawford of the same vessel under the following remarkable circumstances:—On September 9, at six p.m., the sailing cutter of the Swallow, while cruising off the south end of the Zanzibar Islands, anchored off Uzi Island, when half the men landed, leaving Mr M'Dermott, John Sadler, H. Payne, Charles Lawford and W. Rendle, A.B. seamen, in the boat. Lawford and Payne jumped overboard and were bathing, when a large shark was seen making towards Lawford. The shark was only four or five feet off when, without hesitation, and not divesting himself of any of his clothes, M'Dermott plunged into the sea, "right on top of the shark," and with the splash he made frightened it away for a short time, while the men were quickly drawn into the boat. M'Dermott suffered nothing from the immersion and but for his prompt action Lawford must have lost his life.

Recently a force of forty police accompanied an eviction party consisting of Mr Jackson, Lord Dillon's agent, and four bailiffs, who proceeded to Brushfield, a place about two miles south of Charles-

assembly the most gratifying and notable to me was the perfect unanimity of the delegates. One of the most eloquent proofs of this was the reception of the old leaders. In these sad days, when no service, no suffering, no proof of disinterestedness renders a public man safe from the imputation of the basest motives and the most dishonourable, one never knows what reception will be given, even in a friendly assembly, to men who a few years ago were the idols of every Irish heart. It was, therefore, with some anxiety as well as curiosity that I watched the reception which was accorded to such men as Mr Davitt, Mr Dillon, Mr Sexton, Mr Healy, and Mr O'Brien, and I can say distinctly and emphatically that the reception of these gentlemen was as warm, as loving, and as enthusiastic as it ever was in the course of the last twelve years. For the time, at least, it looked as if all the sadness and division of the last two years had disappeared as a spectral nightmare of bad, evil dreams, that we had got back once more to the good old days when every Irishman belonged to the same party, believed in the same means, and loved the same leaders.

Mr Frank James has been turned out of Walsall on an election petition. In the short summary of the judgment, just to hand, the specific and technical reasons are not very technically set out. But from the reports of the evidence of the previous days it is quite plain that the Licensed Vintners on behalf of the Coercionist saturated the constituency with drink. The malpractices fortunately were brought home to the agents of the successful candidate. In East Manchester the drink argument was also largely offered and eagerly swallowed. But it was found impossible to bring it directly home to the candidate, Mr Balfour, or his agents. There is good hope of winning the vacant seat, and thus counter-balancing the loss of Cirencester and bringing the Home Rule Government back to its General Election majority of forty. The seat was strongly Liberal. In 1885 it was carried by a Liberal majority of 1,677. In 1886 the Home Ruler was returned unopposed. At the bye-election of August, 1891, there was a Liberal majority of 539. But in 1892, to the surprise of all who were not in the "know," the Coercionists secured a majority of 817. The mystery is now entirely explained. Mr James was the represen-

We advise our Readers to

DRINK ONLY

SUMMER BLOOM CEYLON TEA

The Purest, Richest, most Economic.

Obtainable at all Storekeepers.

town, for the purpose of carrying out evictions on Lord Dillon's estate. A man named Thos Farrell, who has a wife and five children, was evicted. His holding is eight acres in extent, the rent being £4 2s. The tenant is suffering from paralysis, and has not been at work for eight years. For most of that time he was confined to bed. The eldest of the children is aged 12 years, and it has been a hard struggle for existence for the family for a number of years. The furniture was thrown into the yard. The bedstead was broken before being removed. The evicting party, who came provided with crowbars and hatchets, seemed inclined to proceed to raze the house to the ground when possession had been taken. They took the crowbars and hatchets off the cars, but desisted when they were informed that police protection would not be afforded them in the work of demolition. In eight other cases settlements were arrived at.

Charlestown, Wednesday.—To-day the evictions on Lord Dillon's estate were continued at Leecarrow, in Carracastle parish, two miles from Charlestown. Fifty police accompanied the evicting party. A settlement was made in three cases. In the case of Michael Doherty three half-years' rent was offered but not accepted. The house was cleared, the bedsteads cut down with hatchets, and all removed. Orders were given to level the house. The poor fellow begged time to search for money from a neighbour, but returned to find the walls of his house shattered by the crowbar. The next case was that of Frank Gavaghan, whose rent is £4 3s, the eldest of his family of five being only eight years. He could only offer three half-years' rent, which would not be accepted. The house was ordered to be levelled. Everything was removed in a broken state from the house, the crowbars being driven into the walls, and in five minutes the roof fell in, and the house was razed to the ground. It was lamentable to listen to the screams of the children when they saw the roof falling, and the mother standing by with an infant in her arms. Indignation was manifested by the neighbours standing by. One of the evicting party presented a revolver and swore that he would shoot them if they did not desist.

Mr T. P. O'Connor contributes a highly graphic and interesting account of the great Convention in Dublin in yesterday's *Sunday Sun*. In the course of it he says:—"Of all the features of the

tative of the beer barrels, which, though they have no votes themselves, are a cause of voting in others. There should be little difficulty in a Home Ruler again recapturing the seat. The result of the petition and the two prior elections plainly show that the constituency in its normal and sober condition is Liberal. At the next election the beer barrels will be bunged up, and this stimulus to Coercion being withdrawn, the Coercionist is in the gravest danger. There is good ground for hoping that next session will be brilliantly inaugurated by a Home Rule victory at Walsall.

The *Speaker*, in the course of an article on the Convention, says:—The great Convention of the Irish National Federation on Tuesday last comes at an opportune moment. Mr Redmond's magazine articles and his spectacular poses have blinded many Englishmen to the relative proportions of the two sections of Irish Nationalists. Like Mr Keir Hardie, Mr Redmond has been too much talked about. It is time to recall people to the realities of Irish life. There are seventy-two Nationalist members and only nine Redmondites. The leader of the nine may absorb more Parliamentary time next session than the leader of the seventy-two. The leader of any section whose action is uncertain will always be listened to with more attention than is due to either his speeches or his following. But small sections are not so novel as they once were in Parliament, and the interest in Mr Redmond's speeches will gradually decline when it is once understood that the permanent forces of Irish life are with the seventy-two and not with the nine. The convention of delegates which assembled on Tuesday represented these permanent forces. The farmers were there in great numbers. Ireland is, and probably always will be, an agricultural country, and the men who till the soil must therefore be a ruling element among the industrial classes. The town labourers of Ireland, though their patriotism is fervid, have never given the same steady force and direction to the movement. There are Redmondites in Dublin just as there are still Boulangists in Paris, but the peasant in each country has given up the roses and raptures, and has become reconciled to drab-coated Parliamentaryism. The party presented to the convention a full-audited account of all the funds raised since the split. No other political party has ever given such a complete financial statement, and the fact that