

is the verdict of a number of prominent newspapers in Great Britain. 'The outburst in the Royal University against "God Save the King," says London 'Truth,' 'had nothing to do with the King himself, but only with those—they are many; in Ireland—who make the National Anthem a party cry.' Here is the verdict of the 'Manchester Guardian':—

'At first glance this might seem to the careless observer a mere case of the usual degree-day "ragging" which prevails at all British universities, and if no one is hurt, is winked at by sensible authorities. He might even have thought that a much more serious insult to the King was committed when a foreign Prince, the King's guest, had his clothes torn from his back a short time ago by the frolicsome students of a Scottish University on the occasion of his receiving an honorary degree there. Or it might have been thought that since some English Unionists try to make "God Save the King" a party song, and decorate their election posters with the standard as a party device, the Irish Nationalist students were to be excused for slipping into a similar error.'

'It seems unfortunate,' says the 'Manchester Guardian,' in concluding its article, 'that a little more genuine and thoughtful loyalty to the King, and a little less eagerness to make party capital, did not save a few heated Unionists from courting this fiasco.'

One man may steal a horse, while another must not look over the fence. Critics of the 'Times' variety, both in England and New Zealand, are ever ready to find a pretext for a cry of 'disloyalty' against Irish Nationalists, both Catholic and Protestant. But they have only sympathetic silence or 'wreathing smiles' of approval for the outbreaks of the one faction in Ireland that, while claiming a monopoly of 'loyalty,' have ever been and still remain, a party of organised rebellion. The Australian and New Zealand secular press had, for instance, no word of disapproval of the following threat which came from the rasping tongue of Colonel Saunderson, when speaking on behalf of his brother Orangemen at a Unionist meeting:—

'The very moment there is a chance of a Home Rule Parliament, we shall arm, we shall drill, and in a fortnight we can put fifty thousand men in the field under arms.'

Some three weeks ago what amounted to a similar threat of rebellion was made at a 'loyalist' meeting in Belfast, over which Lord Abercorn presided. But our newspapers did not go on fire. Of course it was all Saundersonian bluff and Abercornian slap-dash. But if an Irish Nationalist Member of Parliament said one-tenth of it, his face would be broken by a constabulary baton, and he would be placed under lock and key to purge his 'treasonable' language in gaol. And the 'Times' and its colonial echoes would deliver further vinegared homilies on the virtue of loyalty. As to tolerance: they have no word of condemnation for the systematic and wholesale boycott of Catholics in Belfast, Derry, Portadown, and other 'loyalist' centres of the saffron stripe in Ulster, and in the great public Departments that rule the unhappy country with a regime from which the people are flying every day in shiploads, as from a pest. Earl Spencer had, as Irish Viceroy, abundant opportunities of observing on which side lie both the tolerance and the intolerance in Irish social and public life. 'I will not deny,' said he at Chester in 1886, 'that I have known instances not a few, while I was in Ireland, of bigotry and religious intolerance which, under conditions which would allow of it, would have developed into religious persecution.' There was a pause (says the report), and then Earl Spencer thus addressed his startled audience: 'But I am bound to say the bigotry and intolerance were on the side, not of the Catholic majority, but of the Protestant minority.'

Until further notice Messrs. Duthie Bros., Drapers, George street, Dunedin, will allow a discount of 2s in the £ on all cash purchases of £1 and upwards....

Notes

Sir Frederick's Blunder

A short memory often proves a long affliction. Sir Frederick Darley, Chief Justice of New South Wales, may not have realised this a few weeks ago. He knows it now. In the course of an interview with the Melbourne 'Age,' Cardinal Moran said:—

'A regrettable circumstance about Sydney is its strong spirit of provincialism, and the fashion in which old traditions still survive and continue to be represented there. I may cite as an instance the recent utterance of our State Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Frederick Darley, who took occasion to declare that the Home Rule movement evidenced our disloyalty as a people to the Empire.'

Sir Frederick challenged the Cardinal's statement. And the Cardinal, who has the cautious habit of speaking by the book, quoted the following offensive extract from a letter of Sir Frederick's, written in the State Government House, Sydney, under date June 23, 1905, and addressed to the Sister Superior of a North Shore charity:—

'I do not now feel called upon to give any money to the Roman Catholic charities of this State, inasmuch as the Cardinal is able to donate no less a sum than £1000 a year (which might be devoted to the charities of his Church) to an object which I not only look upon as disloyal, but also as one that causes unrest, and works untold misery to my country.'

The 'disloyal object' was Home Rule—a sort of 'disloyalty,' by the way, to which the greatest and most progressive party in English politics, and the Legislatures of Australia and the Dominion of Canada are as much devoted as is the Cardinal. One of the primary duties of Governors and Acting-Governors in the British dominions is to preserve an inviolate neutrality on political questions, and to maintain a strict impartiality towards those over whom they are supposed to rule. The King furnishes a good example in this respect. Sir Frederick Darley sorely needed the reminder and well deserved the rebuke. We ourselves have, in this corner of the Empire, effected some good by a like reminder and rebuke. We are pleased to have done so in such good company.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

The Rev. Father McDermott, C.S.S.R., conducted the retreat for the Dominican nuns, Oamaru, which was brought to a close yesterday.

A new church will shortly be erected at Waikaka, in the Gore parish. The contract has been let for £300, and the material is on the ground. Building operations will start immediately.

Mr. William Donnelly, who has been prominently identified with the Catholic Young Men's Club, South Dunedin, since its inception, left on Sunday last for Europe on an extended holiday tour. He intends being away for two years. His many friends gave him a hearty send-off. Mr. Donnelly recently passed his final pharmaceutical examination.

We regret to record the death of Constable Michael Hastings, which took place at his residence, Roslyn, on January 17. The deceased had been for 27 years connected with the police force of the Colony, during which time he had been stationed at Clyde, Waitati, Dunedin, and Roslyn. He was 56 years of age. The funeral took place on Saturday, the remains being taken to St. Joseph's Cathedral, and thence to the Northern Cemetery for interment.—R.I.P.

The financial result of the performance of 'My Sweetheart' in September last for the Benefit of the funds of the St. Vincent de Paul Orphanage, South Dunedin, was highly satisfactory, the net return being £180 odd. The credit of this record result has been in a great measure due to the careful management of Mr. J. J. Marlow, and to the excellent manner in which the play was presented by the ladies and gentlemen who took part in its production.

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