

Wales. Mr. Bryce said it was not intended to continue the presentation of periodical returns of alleged agrarian outrages in Ireland.

A Local Government Bill

The London 'Standard' understands that the most important measure of the next session is likely to be a Local Government Bill for Ireland. In this way the Government will endeavor to redeem its pledge made regarding Ireland in the King's Speech. The Bill is likely to be a compromise between Devolution and Home Rule.

Use of Gaelic

Some of the public bodies in Ireland are taking great interest in the language movement. Last month the Dublin Corporation, by 39 votes to 4, decided that all its official correspondence shall henceforth be addressed in the national language. Several other boards and councils throughout the country have come to a similar decision. Some time ago Irish was made a qualifying subject at the examinations for Dublin Corporation clerkships.

Obsolete Crown Rents

It was brought under the notice of the Chief Secretary for Ireland in the House of Commons the other day that in several cases an allocation of purchase money under the Irish Land Purchase Acts claims had been made on the part of the Crown, and allowed, in respect of obsolete Crown rents which had not been paid for upwards of 100 years; that in one case an arrear of 170 years was claimed and had to be allowed, as there was no statute of limitation available against the Crown in Ireland. Mr. M'Kenna, in reply, said claims were never now made in respect of quit and Crown rents which had remained unpaid for 60 years or upwards, though there was a legal decision some years ago that the Nullum Tempus Acts, by which Crown claims to land are barred after sixty years, do not apply to quit and Crown rents. He hoped, however, to introduce an amendment in the Crown Lands Bill which, if carried, would have the effect of making the law conform with the existing practice in this respect.

Irish Exports

Mr. Boland questioned the president of the Board of Trade recently as to the actual amount and the proportion contributed by Ireland to each of the following classes of exports, of which the total export for 1905 from the United Kingdom was stated to be respectively—Linen yarn, £227,617; linen manufactures, piece goods, plain, unbleached, or bleached, £4,225,394; piece goods, checked, printed, or dyed, and damask, and diaper, £335,635; piece goods, sailcloth, £280,840; linen thread for sewing, £262,396; other linen manufactures unenumerated, £1,236,951. Mr. Lloyd George said that the official returns of exports do not show what proportion of the exports of the articles referred to originated in Ireland. The value of the exports shipped from Irish ports direct to places abroad was as follows—Linen yarn, £35,764; linen piece goods, plain, bleached, or unbleached, £911; linen thread for sewing, £273; other linen manufactures unenumerated, £7819. No doubt a very much larger proportion of the total exports of these articles was of Irish origin, though shipped abroad from ports in Great Britain.

Town Tenants

Mr. William McKillop introduced recently in the House of Commons the Town Tenants Bill in a speech of admirable clearness. The Bill is a great Irish reform, and the member for South Armagh had the tact and the good sense to present it to the House supported by a series of facts and arguments which should convince fair minds that it is an equitable as well as a necessary measure. It is as valuable to the Ulster Orangemen as to the Ulster Nationalists, and the Ulster Orangemen will have the queer consolation of noting that the only note of antagonism to the Bill was sounded by their own Orange representatives—Mr. Sloan excepted. All tenants in the Orange towns of Ulster demand it as earnestly as any others. The object of Mr. McKillop's Bill is to end a system of tenure which allows the landlord class to confiscate improvements made by town tenants, and to the tenants the right to compensation for any improvements made by them which add to the letting value of the property. The Bill will also give moderate compensation to tenants for disturbing by landlords, and will enable a tenant who receives notice to pay more rent or quit to compel the landlord to sell him the holding at a price to be fixed by the County Court.

People We Hear About

Mrs. Katherine Thurston, author of 'The Gamblers,' the successful new book, is the daughter of Alderman Paul Madden, one-time Mayor of Cork.

A grand memorial concert was held in New York on May 15 in honor of Patrick Sarsfield Gilmore, the most famous of modern bandmasters. Some 12,000 people and musical directors and composers participated. The committee of five hundred was headed by President Roosevelt. Gilmore, who died in 1892, was born in Ballygar, County Galway, in 1829. He learned music from Keating, of the Athlone Band.

It is a mistake to suppose (says an exchange), as has been stated, that Mr. Seddon held the office of Prime Minister for a longer period than has previously been recorded in the British possessions. Sir Oliver Mowatt, who was Premier of Ontario for twenty-four years, from 1872 to 1896, appears to hold the record. He only resigned the Premiership in the latter year to take office in the Dominion Cabinet, and in 1897 was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario.

Mrs. Wilfrid Ward, whose latest novel has been received with a chorus of praise by the press and the public, is the wife of the distinguished editor of the 'Dublin Review.' She is the daughter of the late James R. Hope Scott, of Abbotsford, by his second marriage with Lady Victoria Howard, eldest sister of the present Duke of Norfolk. Mrs. Ward's sisters are the Hon. Mrs. Maxwell Scott, of Abbotsford, and Lady O'Connor, wife of Sir Nicholas O'Connor, the British Ambassador at Constantinople.

Mr. John E. Redmond embodies in his own person the antithesis of all the qualities commonly associated with the English idea of a Home Ruler (says the London 'Mail'). In demeanor, it is true, Mr. John E. Redmond—not to be confused with his brother William—is as solemn and as grandly dignified as a foreign ambassador in court costume. He dresses like a member of the royal family, but his head betokens an intellect suggesting Aristotle's. Then there is that melodious voice. There is something in the plaintiveness of it that makes women weep whenever Mr. Redmond describes an Irish eviction. There is a buoyancy in the man's laughter at Unionism that is contagious. Mr. Redmond is the only member of the House of Commons known to have made Mr. Arthur Balfour laugh heartily. With no trace of Hibernian accent, Mr. Redmond has so rare an elocutionary gift that labor members have begun to study his oratorical style in the House. He is the best speaker there to-day.

A traveller who had recently been in Germany returned with a budget of personal incidents concerning the German Emperor, whom he was so fortunate as to meet several times. 'As a worker the Kaiser beats even a Yankee millionaire,' he said. 'Why, even on the morning of his marriage he appeared at the barracks at Potsdam at six o'clock to give a medal to a sergeant-major. He was then simply Prince William, but to the officers, who were astonished to see him at such a moment, he said, "I am only doing my duty." And later, as Emperor, he has said, "It is not necessary that I live, but it is essential that I work." He never postpones any kind of business, but settles everything at the hour appointed, even though to do so he has to take an hour or so from his sleep. He has made it a rule that even an imperial dinner of ten courses to eighty people shall not last longer than fifty minutes. In his bed-chamber, beside his bed, he keeps a paper and pencil, that he may make a note of anything that occurs to him before he goes to sleep or when he awakes in the morning.'

Mr. Jeremiah Murphy, president of the Jeremiah Murphy Packing Company, died on May 10 at St. Louis. The deceased was the owner of the largest pork packing plant in St. Louis, the company consisting of himself and his sons. No better illustration was ever given of the rewards which follow energy, intelligence, square dealing and close attention to detail than the career of Jeremiah Murphy, who walked from Chicago to St. Louis because he did not have the money to pay his train fare. He arrived in St. Louis a penniless and unknown young Irishman, and thirty-two years later died one of St. Louis' most prominent citizens and merchants. The deceased was born in the parish of Kilworth, in the County of Cork, a few miles from Fermoy. He was seventeen years of age when he emigrated to America. He worked in Chicago as a blacksmith's assistant for five years, and after arriving in St. Louis took a job in a printing office. A year later he entered the employment of the Stanton Packing Company as a helper. His rise was rapid, and he accumulated a little money and went into business for himself.

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