

(Secretary for India), Mr. Winston Churchill (Under-secretary for the Colonies), and Mr. John Redmond, who presided. Mr. Redmond expressed the party's gratitude to the colonial representatives for their unvarying sympathy with Ireland.

Return of the Envoys

Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., and Mr. J. T. Donovan, the Irish envoys to Australia and New Zealand, and Mr. Hazleton, M.P., and Mr. Kettle, M.P., the envoys to America, arrived in Queenstown on March 21 from New York. They were presented with an address from the Queenstown Urban Council, and delivered interesting speeches in reply.

The Pope and Irish Sodalities

Pope Pius X. has sent his blessing to the members of the Irish Sodalities of the Blessed Virgin affiliated to the Prima Primaria in Rome, who, at the instance of the rev. editor of 'The Madonna,' the organ of the Irish Sodalists, recently forwarded to the Holy See their joint protest against the persecuting policy of the French Government. This protest, which was adopted by eighty-six sodalities, and represented some thirteen thousand persons, was presented to his Holiness by Monsignor O'Riordan, Rector of the Irish College, Rome, handsomely printed on parchment, in Italian and English. The Holy Father at the same time sent his blessing to the 'Irish Messenger of the Sacred Heart.'

Progress of Temperance

It looks (writes a Dublin correspondent) as if the fervent aspiration given expression to by the late A. M. Sullivan in his words would be realised in the near future. With the approach of legislative independence which we are promised, and which we shall certainly obtain sooner or later, there is also an advance towards a realisation of the most sanguine hope of temperance reformers. Evidence of the fact is to be found in the almost total absence of drunkenness on St. Patrick's Day and the day following, which was a bank holiday in Ireland. The police this year had nothing to do but to watch the people enjoying their freedom from work in a sober, manly fashion. In the extensive area controlled by the Dublin Metropolitan Police the number of arrests during the two days was insignificant, and the greater number of those arrested were habituals.

Trinity College and the Study of Irish

Professor Kuno Meyer, responding to a toast at the Irish Nationalist banquet in Liverpool on March 18, spoke contemptuously of the attitude of Trinity College, Dublin, towards the movements for the extension of scholarships and the revival of the Irish language. 'He expressed the hope that when a national University came to be established in Ireland it would be on widely different lines, such as would bring the Irish student once more into contact with the living world of science and scholarship.'

A Profession of Political Faith

A cable message received a few weeks ago stated that Dr. McNamara, Secretary of the Local Government Board, had joined a London branch of the United Irish League, and that his action had considerable political significance. In the course of a letter to the 'Standard,' which criticised his action, he says:—As an Irishman, I am, and always have been, on purely democratic lines, a profound believer in the right and capacity of the Irish people to govern their own affairs. I desire to see completed, as early as may be expedient, the good work commenced by Mr. George Wyndham in the late Government in connection with the Irish local Government and the Irish Land Acts—good work which has already been still further prosecuted in the Irish Laborers Act of last year, and the full completion of which will, I hope, bring us to that day so devoutly desired by Lord Dudley, the Irish Lord Lieutenant in the late Tory Government, when we shall govern Ireland according to Irish ideas. Having said all this, perhaps you will allow me to add, in the most sincere manner possible, that my emphatic conviction is that such a policy will deepen and strengthen the prosperity and integrity of the British Empire.

The German Emperor rarely prepares a speech, and never uses notes when delivering an address in public. This has been his practice for years, no matter what the subject has been on which he had to express his views.

People We Hear About

Sir Joseph Ward, K.C.M.G., Premier of New Zealand, who has taken a leading part in the Premiers' Conference in London, was sworn in a Privy Councillor on Thursday, and during the week was made an LL.D. of Dublin University.

Speaking of Cardinal Gibbons, a Baltimore priest says that during the forty-five years of his ministry, Cardinal Gibbons has never been ill enough to omit the daily recitation of his breviary. 'If everybody adopted the Cardinal's regime as regards work, rest, worry and abstemiousness,' says the priest, 'the occupation of mental healers, faith curists and health faddists would vanish, and medical science would have to deal only with the diseases incident to old age and accidents.'

Lord Roberts once found himself among new friends at a London Club. There was a very tall man present, who, evidently believing himself to shine as a wit, seized every opportunity of raising a laugh at other people's expense. On being introduced to Lord Robert's the wit bent down patronising to his lordship and remarked: 'I have often heard of you, but'—shading his eyes with one hand, as though the famous general, being so small, could be seen only with difficulty—'I have never seen you.' To this Lord Roberts promptly replied: 'I have often seen, you, sir, but I have never heard of you.'

Lord Dunraven, of 'Sweet Adare,' who was 65 on February 11, has, perhaps, crowded as much action and adventure into his life as any person now living. He has served in the Guards, on the London County Council, and as Under Secretary for the Colonies; was a war correspondent in Abyssinia, and in the Franco-Prussian campaign; is a world-renowned yachtsman, and fought in South Africa with the Imperial Yeomanry. One of the few Irish peers who can boast a Celtic origin (he traces his descent from Ollium Olum, a fourth century King of Ireland). Lord Dunraven is immensely interested in everything Irish, and has ideas of his own about Irish self-government, as well as a plan for the reform of the House of Lords.

Lord Sligo was seventy-six in March. The earldom of Altamont, borne now as a courtesy title by his eldest son, was created in 1771, the third Earl being made Marquess of Sligo in 1800. Lord Sligo has taken pleasure in reviving old Irish names in his family, his three daughters being the Ladies Eileen Agatha, Moya Melisende, and Doreen. Lord Sligo is heir presumptive under the special remainder to the earldom of Clanricarde, which was created in 1880, and of which so much has been heard recently on account of the present Lord Clanricarde's unpopularity in Ireland.

Lord Kitchener's pitiless contempt for anything which savors of effeminacy is well illustrated in the following story. Shortly after his return from Egypt he was accosted in a friend's house by a young lord, whose zeal (or impudence) in soliciting celebrities' autographs is the cause of constant vexation. 'Do honor me by pen-cilling your name on this, Lord Kitchener,' he gushed, producing a very flimsy lace handkerchief and laying it on the table. 'Then I'll have the autograph worked in silk and keep it for ever in memory of the hero of Khartoum.' Kitchener picked up the scented handkerchief and sniffed it. 'Your sister's, I presume?' he questioned, fixing the gilded youth with a scornful eye. 'No, sir; my own. A very pretty pattern, isn't it?' 'Very,' was Kitchener's dry response, as he passed the handkerchief back unsigned. 'What is your taste in hair-pins, by the way?'

An amusing story is told in connection with Mr. Albert Chevalier, the famous coster impersonator. During a brief interval between two performances he good-naturedly agreed to pay a flying visit to a suburban district in order to aid in a friend's benefit. This left no time for a change of costume, except the addition of a light overcoat, and Mr. Chevalier appeared at the railway booking-office in brave coster array, greatly to the admiration of a gentleman of the calling who was also waiting for a train. Fascinated by the appearance of such an elegant member of the craft, the man followed Mr. Chevalier to the ticket-office and, open-mouthed with wonder, heard him ask for a first-class return to Hammersmith. Recovering a little from his amazement, the coster inquired of the clerk: 'Ere, guv'nor, what d'e arsk for?' and on being answered, 'A first-class ticket to Hammersmith,' replied, enthusiastically: 'Then just give me a Pullman to White-chapel, guv'nor!'

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