

IRELAND.

The Green Isle as It Is After Seventy-four Years of Union.

SCENES IN THE IRISH METROPOLIS.

Decay of Industry and Increase of Snobbery.

THE AGITATION FOR HOME RULE.

Mr. Butt, the Leader, May Visit America.

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While on the voyage from New York to London, an American gentleman, a member of the legal profession, was discussing with me the present condition of Ireland.

He said that the Union of the Kingdom of Ireland with Great Britain, the disastrous consequences which followed to the race and commerce of Dublin, where, during the setting of the Legislature the nobility and gentry resided, for seven or eight months of each year, in their capacity of representatives of the people, and spent their money freely among all classes of the citizens.

He said this American gentleman, "When the act of union was accomplished it cut the head off Ireland and destroyed her capital. It took the wealth of the nation away to England and crippled all those trades that derived vitality and prosperity from the expenditure caused by the residence of a native aristocracy in Dublin."

He said that every person who had even the slightest information about Ireland and the Irish metropolis was now aware of the fact that the once splendid houses of Dublin, formerly the homes of men of fortune and position, have gone to decay or have been converted into hospitals, houses of refuge, stores or public institutions.

He said that the residence of the Marquis of Waterford, is now used as the offices of the National Board of Education. Moira House, on Usher's Quay, once the beautiful residence of Lord Moira, has been long a mendicant institution.

He said that the residence of the Earl of Powerscourt, in William street, has been converted into a dry goods shop. The house of Lord Belvedere has been for several years a school-house.

He said that the residence of the Earl of Charlemont, in Rutland square, where Grattan and the other leaders of the Irish Parliament often met, is now a place in which I believe, the house in Ely place, in which Lord Carleton, the active and scrupulous supporter of the Union, lived, in the last stage of decay, almost as much forgotten as the proud and overbearing man who once owned it.

He said that the noble mansion of the Duke of Leinster, in Kildare street, has been for several years used for the purposes of the Royal Dublin Society; other houses, once gay with fashion and made remarkable by the reunions of an intellectual and refined society, have been deserted by their occupants and are now fast going to ruin, or let in tenements, where poverty tries hard to disguise the painful features.

He said that in place of this elegant society and those handsome mansions in which this society dispersed itself, what have we? A society of doctors and barristers, who make it almost an especial study to procure "invitations" to the levees and balls at the mansion where a Lord Lieutenant performs the part of a MOCK KING.

He said that for some years a man has been pestering him for place and pension under the government of Great Britain. In lieu of a native aristocracy in Dublin there is a crowd of doctors and barristers without practice. There are so many doctors residing in Merrion square that one side of it has been facetiously termed "Pill Box Row."

He said that barristers torture the government for situations, and are sometimes saved from almost certain starvation by the appointments. It is a fact universally admitted here that the independence of the Irish bar, once the glory and the pride of the country, is gone.

He said that with a very few exceptions no voice is now heard from that bar pleading the cause of Ireland. The reverse was the case in the days of Curran. In those days the bar of Ireland was independent; to-day it is, to a great extent, corrupt, and is most certainly enslaved. A barrister who is expecting a place from the government dare not say a single word in favor of home rule; dare not attend a meeting for any object whatever, unless that object be approved by the government.

He said that if he spoke in support of any matters not sanctioned by the powers that be, if he uttered a word favorable to the sitting of a parliament in Dublin, he would be tabooed from the society of the aristocracy, and he would be regarded as an appointment would be about as great as his chance of making milestones dance by whistling to them.

He said that FASHIONABLE SOCIETY here is made up, or the most part, of persons who are favorable to the connection of Ireland with England, and who are largely dependent upon government employ for their income. There are, of course, exceptions to this. There are respectable merchants who are not dependent upon appointments from the Crown, and are quite content to live in ease on the wealth they have inherited by honest means.

He said that one of the great difficulties in Ireland is that the people are very rich or very poor, and there is a foolish, almost disgusting, pride among a portion of the aristocracy, which is largely dependent upon government employ for their income. This makes them "walking gentlemen" instead of workers of earners at some useful calling. That the aristocracy are better paid than they have ever been, and as for farmers, they are rolling in money, getting, as they do, enormous prices for their cattle, this may be a true statement, but it is not a general diffusion of wealth throughout the country. A cry comes up from the people that the people there are in a sad condition of distress, and that the aristocracy are the cause of it.

He said that the situation as it was. In 1798, the year of the insurrection and three years after the Union, the population of Ireland was 8,000,000. In 1874, the population of Ireland was 7,000,000. The population of Ireland in 1874 was 7,000,000. The population of Ireland in 1874 was 7,000,000.

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WOMAN AND HER WORK.

FREE TRAINING SCHOOL OF THE WOMEN'S EDUCATIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Herald: Permit me to ask you to give four columns for some consideration of a most interesting subject, namely:—The present condition of working women and the employments open to them.

It has been estimated that they number in this city and immediate vicinity over 75,000. I believe that the sum would be considerably augmented were it possible to reckon those who try by stealth to eke out their scant resources, and who would feel bitterly disgraced were it known that they were so engaged.

THE HOME RULERS' CASE AND ARGUMENT.

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