

people belonging to the third and fourth classes live. Those who are accounted of the first and second classes are in no special need of our sympathy, and for the present, we will waive the discussion of their situation.

Judging from my own experience before visiting this country, I am convinced that the generality of Americans do not fully understand what is known in the newspapers as the "Irish movement," the "agitation in Ireland," etc. In many respects, this movement resembles the premonitory efforts of the early colonists in America.

Ever since the O'Connell movement of 1842 and 1844, the secret fires of patriotism have been steadily burning, smothered though they may have been at times by the iron rule of England.

On Thursday evening, May 19, 1870, a private conference was held by a few Irish patriots, at the Dillon hotel, in Dublin. At this meeting, the famous "Committee on Resolutions" was created, and, a few days later, the labors of that committee culminated in the joint adoption of "The Home Rule Government Association of Ireland." Several articles of this association were couched in the following language:

"I. This association is formed for the purpose of obtaining for Ireland the right of self-government by means of a national parliament.

"II. It is hereby declared, as the essential principle of this association, that the objects, and the *only objects* contemplated by its organization, are:

"To obtain for our country the right and privilege of managing our own affairs, by a parliament assembled in Ireland, composed of Her Majesty, the sovereign, and her successors, and the Lords and Commons of Ireland."

Other objects are here specified in clear and forcible language, which, however, we will not enumerate. Article III. reads as follows:

"This association invites the co-operation of all Irishmen who are willing to join in seeking for Ireland a federal arrangement based upon these general principles."

So much for the principal demonstration since O'Connell's time. Again, on Sunday, April 20, 1878, a public meeting was called at Irishtown, an inconsiderable village situated in the portion of Mayo adjoining the counties of

Roscommon and Galway; large portions of the country, here, being owned by absentee proprietors. This meeting was called to order with Mr. Daly in the chair, that distinguished gentleman being one of the four persons since arrested for "plotting against the crown." At this meeting the following preamble and resolution were drafted and adopted:

WHEREAS, The social condition of the Irish people having been reduced, through their subjection to England and its coercive legislation, to a state below that of any civilized country in the world; and,

WHEREAS, The mouthpiece of English public opinion, when speaking of continental misgovernment in late years, having declared that, "Government should be for the good of the governed, and that whenever rulers willfully and persistently postpone the good of their subjects, either in the interests of foreign states, or to assist theories of religion or politics, such rulers have hereby forfeited all claim to allegiance," be it therefore

Resolved, That we, Irishmen, assembled, to-day, in our thousands, do hereby indorse the foregoing declaration, as embodying the position and wrongs of our misgoverned and impoverished country, and, as likewise affording us a justification for recording our unceasing determination to resort to every lawful means, compatible with an outraged, civilized people, whereby our inalienable rights, political and social, can be regained from their enemies.

These proceedings, eloquently expressing the sentiments of the intelligent classes, will do more to reveal the true inwardness and *regime* of the present agitation in Ireland, than a hundred letters written by your humble correspondent. It makes one think of the old-fashioned Fourth of July celebrations of the by-gone days, to attend the public meetings now being held all over the country, here, and witness the patriotic demonstrations there exhibited. "The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church," is no truer an assertion in ecclesiastical history, than that the blood of Ireland's slain patriots is at this moment crying for vengeance from the ground.

To make use of a *Barnum-ism*, which every American reader will at once understand, it may be truly said that England has "got an elephant on her hands," in the adjustment of her present domestic embroilment.

Believing that truth and right will ultimately prevail, let us hope for the glorious fulfillment of all good.

ORIENT.

It was written, "Her dainty feet were incased in shoes that might have been taken for fairy boots," but the compositor made it to read, "Her dirty feet were encased in shoes that might have been taken for ferry-boats," and he is no longer a dweller in Chicago, but a fugitive in the land.

1880. **SPRING.** 1880.

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