

Emmett's Morning

EMMETT, R. I., SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 22, 1881. STAR

THE IRISH AGITATION.

The People Advised to Give Up Public Land League Meetings.

The Imprisoned Leaguers Treated with Uncalled for Severity.

What Hastened the Proclamation for the Suppression of the League.

The Land League Gives Up the Struggle.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—The land league has issued a proclamation urging the abandonment on the part of the sympathizers of all projected or contemplated league meetings, intimating that the English government means to use armed force upon any pretext furnished by meetings held under the auspices of the league. The seizure of the *United Irishman*, the organ of the land league, is believed to be in contemplation by the government.

Suppressing the League.

LONDON, Oct. 21.—A large English military force has been dispatched to the Glange Ballaghaderin districts to suppress the riots raised by the sympathizers with the land league. A special police force was detailed to protect the farmers while paying their rents, to-day.

An Address to the American Leagues.

NEW-YORK, Oct. 21.—The following address will be issued to-morrow from the office of the *Irish World* to the 900 branches of the land and industrial leagues of this country, which are in communication with that office and have made that journal the medium of transmitting their money to Patrick Egan, land league treasurer, at Paris:

To the Irish National Land and Industrial Leagues of America:

BROTHERS,—English despotism has outlawed the land league, but the spirit of organization is indestructible. The movement cannot be suppressed. In order to kill the vitalizing principles implanted in the mind of Ireland by this agitation, it is first necessary to exterminate the Irish people themselves, nor would that diabolical effort even succeed then. There is a new Ireland which an English proclamation cannot affect. America is an unassailable field of operations. In truth the war has just commenced in downright earnest. England and Ireland are now face to face. Nothing rash or foolish should be attempted, but every opportunity to strike England, morally and physically, ought to be taken advantage of. Gladstone has sown the wind, let him reap the whirlwind. The policy which the *Irish World* has urged all along—"No rent"—is now adopted, and the *Irish World* and its constituency from Maine to California will support the land league with redoubled energy and zeal unparalleled. Already you who make this journal the channel of your offerings, to the land league have subscribed \$160,000 to have the league firm. But respectable as this sum is, it is as but a drop in the bucket to what we can and must contribute. You are 900 leagues strong. Now is the time for you to show your strength. We pledged ourselves to the land league in convention assembled, that if it would prosecute the war on the "no rent" programme, we would redouble our efforts in its behalf.

while remaining firm, to abandon, for the present, all projected meetings which the government could take advantage of.

IRELAND FOR THE IRISH.

Mass Meeting at Infantry Hall—Plea for American Sympathy with the Land League Movement.

In response to the call inviting Irish-American citizens to attend a meeting to express condemnation of the British government for arresting Charles Stewart Parnell and other Irish land leaguers, in Ireland, there was a very large audience, at Infantry hall, last evening. It was a demonstrative audience in its approval of the object of the meeting, and the speakers were cheered again and again when they "showed up the cowardly attitude of the government in arresting men against whom no crime could be alleged." The first demonstration of applause was made when, a little after eight o'clock, the gentlemen who were to occupy the platform made their appearance, and this was renewed when Major McGuinness, in a few words, announced George J. West as presiding officer of the evening. A few remarks from the chairman, and he introduced Major McCafferty, of Worcester, Mass., who was warmly welcomed by rounds of applause. The major alluded to his connection with the land league in his own city, and then proceeded to speak of the tyranny of England in arresting Mr. Parnell. There is, he said, nothing new or novel in the present position of this question.

It has always been her policy to imprison the leaders of the Irish people, but what amazed him was, that all but Irishmen seemed to look indifferently and calmly on, as if to say to England, "you are right." Gambetta's newspaper tells the world that Gladstone is right, and Bismarck voices the opinion of Germany. He was amazed at the former, but was not surprised that Bismarck, the representative of tyranny in Germany, should applaud the act of England. In our own country—for it is ours. Our race as well as France made the Yorktown celebration possible. [Applause.] Moylan, "Mad Anthony" Wayne and the Pennsylvania line were there with our race; aye, and with a portion of the Irish brigade in the service of France that made Yorktown possible. No man then thought that there was occasion for the victorious arms of joint America and France to salute the bloody red cross of England which on that occasion they had dragged in the mud. [Applause.] But even in our own country, now, we hear of England's justification in the imprisonment of leaders upholding the liberty of a people.

Michael Davitt (cheering and applause) the victim of eviction, the ticket-of-leave man, saw the evils existing in Ireland, because he felt them. He had the ability and genius to tell the world why it was that, year after year, the Irish should be a starving people. He found the cause, and Parnell and other noble souls joined him to overthrow the work. Hence we have the land league. John Bright and Gladstone confessed that Davitt had found the cause, but instead of doing anything to remove the cause they passed a coercion act. Other coercion acts had been passed for Ireland, but this latest one was a surprise to everybody, because it was enacted purely under false pretences. There was less crime in Ireland than in England and Scotland, according to population, but then, the constitution of England is the most India rubber constitution in the world. [Laughter.] It stretches and it shrinks, and it shrinks and stretches. Davitt was a pacificator, and he was sent to prison; Parnell proposed to demonstrate that the land act was good for nothing before the very courts which the law established, and he was sent to prison. Free speech was stifled. This was the same policy the speaker proceeded to explain which characterized the English government in all its dealings with all its colonies—with the American colonies, and with India, and it would be the policy exercised towards Canada to-day, but that the goodness of the states is a menace to foreign rule. Illustrations of

Croke's position was, that the land bill had opened an avenue, and it had ought to be fairly tested, and if sufficient to establish fair rents, then that rent should be paid. The position of the signers of the manifesto was an entirely different one, and they occupy the position they always have, of revolutionists. Mr. Gorman said he did not mean by that that they were in favor of the use of force, but that they insist as a principal proposition that the economic necessities of Ireland are such that there should be an entire and radical change in the tenure by which land is held in that country, and the most essential features in this revolution of existing law is the elimination of Irish landlordism, which is entirely distinct and of a different kind than that existing in this country. The land league had so far shown its willingness to debate the questions involved fairly before both the Irish and the English people, and were contented to continue so as long as the implements of what is considered the birthright of an English citizen—free speech and free press—were allowed them. The desire of the British ministry was to have its force as in times past met by a passionate and misguided use of force by the tenantry, but the league leaders had replied that all they proposed to do was to let the English government run itself in Ireland and see what kind of a job they could make of it. Mr. Gorman said, as for himself, he could not see, judged as political questions of this kind are usually judged, why the non-payment of rent was to be looked upon with any greater horror—at least when it is admitted that as yet a fair rent has not been established under the land act,—than for the English government, by atrocious exercise of force, to deprive the Irish tenantry of the assistance of their chosen leaders in the ascertainment of what is a fair rent under the land act.

George J. West

said Archbishop Croke was a vacillating man, who changes his opinions as he changes his garments. He joined the league when it was popular, and he leaves it now when it is under a shadow. The old saying that a convert ought to be watched for three generations was specially appropriate to Archbishop Croke's case. He had been, and was now, what has been popularly known in Ireland as a "castle head." He was desirous of being a leader in Ireland, and wanted to mould the policy of the land league to suit his own ideas; having failed to do that he tries to talk it down from a moral standpoint. The league had not changed its principles an iota, and Bishop Croke knew it as well as any man. The manifesto was nothing but a crystallization of the public opinion of the Irish people. It was with regret that the league saw a career at one time promising as Archbishop Croke's end in disgrace, and it was true that even Minister Ryett, Protestant though he was, could afford to be more patriotic than a Catholic clergyman. Father Shea represented the feeling of the Catholic clergy in Ireland much more correctly than Archbishop Croke.

John M. Brennan

has been one of the quiet promoters of the local land league, but has not been conspicuous on the platform owing to the pressure of professional business. Archbishop Cooke must have forgotten Irish history and does not understand the Irish people. In the words of Emmet, "the British government is a perfidious government, which holds its domination by blasphemy of the most high." No man had any greater respect for the clergy than Mr. Brennan, but there were some things outside of their holy calling that they are not in a position to pass upon, and the manifesto is, judging from Bishop Croke's letter, one of them. His previous utterances make the letter a surprise, and Mr. Brennan could hardly believe that it was a genuine document. Whatever Bishop Croke really says is entitled to the most profound respect, but as a constitutionalist, which he is, I don't see how he can claim that the repudiation of rent under the circumstances is an unconstitutional or immoral act, or that contracts existing between tenant and landlord are obtained by the landlord by compulsion and duress. The bishop's letter shows he wished a trial of the recent land act, but how that can be had with the land league proclaimed, and its leaders arrested as the representatives of an illegal organization which has by legal means and lawful agitation forced the passage of the bill, passes my comprehension. I can only add that