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PRICE ONE HALFPENNY

TRUTH OR TREASON

It is idle—British-Imperially-speaking—to think of ending “sedition” and “treason” in Ireland by suppressing newspapers as long as Mr. Ponsonby, of Grafton Street, Dublin, continues to sell, under his lion-and-unicorn, the Census and Finances Returns for Ireland.

We have purchased from Mr. Ponsonby, licensed by His Britannic Majesty’s Stationery Office to sell in this island, the General Report of the Census of Ireland, and we certify that, having carefully examined and collated this return with the General Report of the Census of Ireland for 1841, we have found the following facts therein disclosed:

First, the report discloses that, in the year 1841, there were on the soil of Ireland eight million one hundred and seventy-five thousand men, women and children, multiplying at the rate of 9 per cent. per decade—ergo, in the year 1911, there should have been sixteen millions of people within our shores. As there are but four million three hundred and ninety thousand, it is evident that eleven million six hundred and ten thousand disappeared.

But, no doubt, it was in the best interests of the Empire.

In the year 1841 the first Kingdoms of Europe, in point of population, were: (1) France; (2) England; (3) Prussia; (4) Spain; and (5) Ireland. There were more men in this island than the four Kingdoms of Sweden, Norway, Holland and Greece combined possessed. We had more men than Roumania, Albania, Bulgaria, Servia and

Turkey in Europe reckoned between them. For every five men England counted, we had three.

Now Ireland has less men than Sweden, or than Norway, or than Holland, or than Greece, or than Roumania, or than Bulgaria, or than Servia. Instead of being fifth in population amongst the States of Europe, she is at the bottom of the list. Where she had three men to England’s five, England has now eight men to her one—all busily engaged in capturing German trade and turning out munitions of war for the Irish, the Scotch and the Indians to uphold the Empire with.

Every State in Europe has multiplied its population since 1841, except Ireland. No State in Europe has decreased in population except Ireland. Take Poland and Alsace-Lorraine, whose woes wring the hearts of the hypocrites to-day.

Poland, under the Germans, has doubled its population since 1841.

Poland, under the Austrians, has trebled its population since 1841.

Alsace-Lorraine, under the Germans, has increased its population 50 per cent. since 1817.

And Ireland, under England, has lost one-half of its actual population.

As England wants men, just now, the following figures, published and guaranteed by the English Government, will show where they are to be found:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|------------|
| Population of England in 1841 | ... | 14,995,138 |
| „ Ireland in 1841 | ... | 8,175,124 |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|------------|
| Population of England in 1911 | ... | 34,045,270 |
| " Ireland in 1911 | ... | 4,390,219 |

In the seventy years, Ireland was deprived of half her population, while England increased her population by more than double. In 1841, the English did not number 2 to 1 against us; now they number more than 8 to 1. They need our one to do their fighting.

THE CROPPY BOY, 1914-15

(Scene at the Mansion House, Dublin, September, 1914).

Good people all in this house who dwell,
To a wandering "bouchal," I pray you, tell,
Is John Redmond in, our good leader true,
With him, I'd speak a word or two.

John Redmond is in, and he'll speak with you,
He's easy met, is our leader true;
But first you must wait while I go and see
If Mr. Redmond has done his tea.

The youth has entered that big Round Room,
That spacious chamber is plunged in gloom;
No cheering crowds, no electric flare,
But the Irish leader is seated there.

The youth has come to seek advice,
He tells his trouble within a thrice;
With "God save Ireland" he makes a start,
Then quickly he comes to the vital part.

"My age is close on twenty years,
"I've joined the National Volunteers;
"For Home Rule I've striven with might and main,
"And I've sung 'A Nation Once Again.'

"My people all have served Ireland well,
"My father stood by Charles Stewart Parnell;
"I alone am left of my name and race,
"And I come to you who holds Parnell's place.

"I bear no hate against living thing,
"But I love my country more than the King,
"So, Leader, advise me, and bid me stand,
"In this hour of stress, by my native land."

The leader says nought, but a trifling noise
Makes the youth look up with wild surprise;
The mask has come off, and in Khaki there,
Sits a recruiting sergeant with angry glare.

With fiery glare, and in accents rough,
To the youth he makes the answer gruff:
" 'Twas a happy thought sent you here to me,
"For I'll quickly ship you across the sea.

"On Belgian frontiers the battles swerve,
"And there's the place I would have you serve;
"Your country aside you can surely fling,
"While your life you give for our Lord, the King."

On a foreign frontier that young man died,
In Belgian soil is his body laid;
Good people, who live in comfort here,
Breathe a prayer for the soul of that Volunteer.

1915 THE FATEFUL YEAR

The exclusion of Ulster still remains the outstanding feature of the Home Rule situation. Ten years ago, Mr. Arthur Tynan put forward the idea in an article in the "New Ireland Review." He was answered by Eoin MacNeill, and the arguments then used by the founder of the Volunteer movement are so appropriate to the present occasion, that the article has now been reprinted in pamphlet form, and forms No. 2 of the "Tracts for the Times," with the title "Shall Ireland be Divided."

The year following the publication of Mr. Tynan's article, the present Liberal Government came into office, and it has since been maintained in power by the votes of Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party, on the understanding that a Home Rule Bill would be passed for all Ireland. The Liberal Government flagrantly broke that solemn promise last year by introducing proposals to cut Ulster away from the rest of Ireland; and, now, England, fresh from her violation of her treaty with Irish representatives, is denouncing Germany before the world for the violation of Belgian neutrality!

Eoin MacNeill's pamphlet is particularly valuable now, as the cessation of war will see the introduction of a bill to amend our "Charter of Liberty" by the exclusion of Unionist Ulster. Ulster Unionists are pro-British and anti-Irish, says MacNeill, in effect—not because they are a different race from the inhabitants of Ireland, but because **they think they are**. England, with her accustomed mendacity, has sedulously fostered this wrong idea, and ignorant Irish publicists have re-echoed the lie. There are not two Irish nations, but the Irish nation and a "foreign faction." "The British Government and the landlord party," says MacNeill, "are the principal operators behind the scenes in reactionary Ulster," and the English game has been played by "the lower order of Catholics in the North, who have at all times been prone to mere party antagonism, to meeting the silly cry of 'To hell

with the Pope,' with the no less degrading cry of 'To hell with King William.' The plan suggested by MacNeill in 1905 was for us Nationalists to begin by putting our own house in order, "by calling off our dog." Joe Devlin decided otherwise, and the Hibernian dog was urged on to attack the "Yellow Pup," with the result that Unionist Ulster is ranged into an armed camp against the rest of Ireland, and England has shamefully sold the Nationalists for the good-will of the "foreign faction."

Mr. A. Newman's pamphlet, "What Emmet Means in 1915," is an eloquent plea for principle and idealism in our national politics. The popular conception of Emmet's rising is, that it was a boldly-conceived and carefully-planned enterprise. If "he attempted the impossible and laid himself a victim on the unhallowed altar of England's indignation, he did so," says the writer, "because he knew that as the martyrs have nourished and cherished the Church with their blood, so martyrs to nationality can nourish, and strengthen, and save from disaster the nation for which they die." And this is the meaning Emmet's sacrifice has for the Irish people of to-day. Ireland has just seen "the tragic failure of a foreign-spirited leader" to turn the present great world-crisis to the advantage of his country. We shall recover from the failure, but it will be because we have before us the example of the men of 1803, 1848, and 1867, who led forlorn hopes that the spirit of Irish Nationality might not die in their generation, but be handed on to the end strong and defiant.

The publication of these penny pamphlets is most opportune. I hope they will receive wide circulation. The cause of Irish independence will be served by their circulation broadcast amongst our people. Buy them at once, and pass them on.

REDMOND THE PEACEMAKER

Mr. John Redmond has informed the English Press that until Germany quits Alsace-Lorraine his voice will be against peace.

Alsace-Lorraine is that part of Germany which Louis XIV. of France wrested by force from its German Emperor and dragooned, as Russia dragoons Finland, in the effort to make its people pseudo-French. For this purpose, French colonies were settled there. But they did not multiply. After a century and a-half the proportion of German to French blood remained three to one in Alsace-Lorraine. In 1871, Germany reconquered her territory from France, and since then France

carried on, through its secret service, a Gallophile agitation in what she called the "Lost Provinces." As three out of every four people in Alsace-Lorraine are German in blood, in language, and in speech, the desire of Mr. Redmond to hand them over to France is worthy of him.

But it was not always so. Three years ago this same Mr. Redmond lauded the German Government for its conduct in Alsace-Lorraine. This is what he—Mr. John E. Redmond—wrote in "Reynolds' Newspaper" on November, 19, 1911:

"One would fancy that any fair-minded man would admit that the difficulties and dangers surrounding the concession of Home Rule to Alsace-Lorraine were quite as great—if not, indeed, far greater than those which surround the Home Rule problem in Ireland, while the necessity for the granting of Home Rule to Alsace-Lorraine might easily be held not to be as urgent as is the case in Ireland, by reason of the fact that Alsace-Lorraine have shared in the general prosperity of the German Empire; whereas Ireland, for the last one hundred years, under the operation of the Union, has lost half her population, and has fallen back in every walk of industrial endeavour.

"How far-reaching is the concession may be gathered from the correspondent of the 'Daily Telegraph,' who writes:

"The Alsace-Lorraine 'Home Rule' Bill emerges from the Reichstag Committee a much more democratic instrument than was anticipated, and, of course, immensely superior to the measure that was originally laid before the House. 'One man, one vote,' has taken the place of a loaded plural voting system; the Reichsland, moreover, is given three votes in the Bundesrath, which is rather the Imperial Cabinet than an Upper House. This latter is an epoch-making concession, as Prussia thereby endangers her whole hegemony in the Confederation State which form the German Empire.

"Another progressive amendment effected by the Committee refers to freedom of religious belief and freedom of language. The elections will be held on Sundays. Not even the Catholic Centre was opposed to this. Subject to the control of the Imperial Government, the French language will be taught in the schools, and used in official documents in all districts where it is spoken by the preponderating majority of the population.

On the whole, the Committee's decision is hailed by German Liberals with sincere rejoicings. The 'Berliner Tageblatt' voices the universal opinion when it says that the democratic nature of Alsace-Lorraine Constitution will have a fav-

ourable effect in the development of the political institutions in Prussia and the Empire.

"Shall England be less courageous and less liberal in her dealing with Ireland than Germany in her treatment of Alsace-Lorraine?"

Our "Catholic" Representatives

There are eighty Catholic members of the English House of Commons, seventy of them from Ireland, and, with one exception, all of them kept silent about the infamous treatment of the Catholic Archbishop of Lemberg by "Our Ally, Russia." Mr. Ginnell is the exception. There are more than a hundred "Catholic" newspapers in Ireland, and everyone of them has suppressed the report of the questions put by Mr. Ginnell and published in Hansard. Here are two of them:

(From Hansard).

ARCHBISHOP OF LEMBERG.

Mr. Ginnell asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, whether the Archbishop of Lemberg, arrested by the Russians in territory invaded by them and imprisoned in a Russian fortress six months ago, still lives; if so, can he give any particulars of the prison treatment in the case; whether there is any difference in substance between the offence and that for which the Cardinal Archbishop of Malines is restricted to his diocese; whether it is by direction of the Foreign Office or of the Censor that the entire British Press is closed against one of these cases, while giving full particulars of the other; and whether he will, on the principle of reciprocity, suggest to the Russian Government to concede to the Archbishop of Lemberg treatment similar to that accorded by the Germans to the Archbishop of Malines for an identical offence?

The Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Primrose)—I have not sufficient information about either of these cases to enable me to give information; nor can I, even if I had it, give information as to what the Censor may or may not have done in any particular case.

Mr. Ginnell—May I ask the hon. gentleman whether he will get the information if I postpone the question until this day week?

Mr. Primrose—Perhaps the hon. gentleman will ask the question this day week.

—Hansard—Wednesday, March 3rd.
(767-768).

(From Hansard, Wednesday, March 10, (1365-6).
ARCHBISHOP OF LEMBERG (PRISON
TREATMENT).

Mr. Ginnell—(Question repeated in same terms as above).

The Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Primrose)—I have nothing to add to the reply which was returned to the hon. member on the 3rd March.

Mr. Ginnell—Will the hon. member say whether the principle of reciprocity in reference to prisoners of war is English at all; and, if it is, why does it not apply to these two men?

Mr. Primrose—That is hardly a matter for the Foreign Office.

Mr. Ginnell—To what department should I apply for the information?

Perverts and Freemasons.

The "Freeman's Journal" informs its 2,000 readers that Mr. T. P. O'Connor, representing the Irish Parliamentary Party; Mr. J. D. Nugent, representing the A.O.H., and some of the minor fry, have left for France to present the "Symphony of the Irish people" to the President of the Godless Republic.

The President of France, to whom the address is to be read by O'Connor on behalf of John Redmond and his colleagues, is the man who signed the order to erase the name of God from all the school books in France.

What have the real Catholics in the A.O.H. got to say about it. J. D. Nugent and Wee Joe, resting on the bosom of the Grand Orient, is the ultimate word in two careers of loathsome hypocrisy.

The "Freeman's Journal" does not say whether the Irish deputation will be treated to a performance of Lemme's "Hymn to Satan," or a celebration of the Black Mass—both items on the ceremonial programme of the Grand Orient for initiates.

TRINITY WARD MAKES GOOD.

I congratulate the Trinity Ward on the election of Lorcan O'Toole as its Alderman. I trust the Councillorship will be held by the forces of Nationalism, Labour and Progress. Such result will merit for Trinity Ward the admiration and gratitude of every sincere worker in Dublin.

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