



Edited by ED. DALTON.

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PRICE ONE HALFPENNY

WIMBORNE'S MODEL

ON Saturday last the English Lord Lieutenant visited Trinity College to receive the usual "loyal address" which that institution presents to the persons from abroad who are sent here to preside over the fortunes of this country. All that need be said of the address is that the English was as usual. The English nobleman's reply was interesting. He stated that material prosperity reigned in Ireland, and declared he was filled "with respect for those who, from Adam Loftus to John Mahaffy, have guided its (Trinity College's) fortunes".

As to John Mahaffy, the only Mahaffy that Irish history knew before him was the informer who appeared against Emmet and his colleagues in 1803; but as to Adam Loftus, for whom this Englishman, standing on Irish soil, did not hesitate to proclaim his respect, he fills a considerable niche in the story of the English in Ireland.

Loftus was a handsome young Englishman who pleased Queen Elizabeth so much that, at the age of 28, she appointed him Archbishop of Armagh. He had been originally a Catholic priest. Such was his industry and ability that in four years he had "sucked Armagh dry", and was transferred by her Britannic Majesty to the Archbishopric of Dublin. In addition, owing to Elizabeth's favour, he was given "a dispensation" to hold a number of other jobs, and was made Lord Chancellor of Ireland. Holding the dual position, he became the most powerful man in Ireland, and levied blackmail in every direction, amassing enormous riches. An underling whom he had appointed a judge, one John

Dillon, "set" for him the Catholic Archbishop of Cashel, Dr. O'Hurley. The prelate was arrested, and by order of Loftus he was put to the torture. Writing to the Secretary of State in England, Loftus, whose letter is extant in the State papers, describes the torture applied. "I commissioned Mr. Waterhouse and Mr. Secretary Fenton," wrote the miscreant, "to put O'Hurley to the torture . . . as your honour advised us, which was to toast his feet against the fire with hot boots"—i. e., Archbishop O'Hurley's feet were thrust into jackboots filled with boiling pitch. This torture failing to make the Irishman love the English Government in Ireland, he was dragged on a hurdle to Oxmantown Green, and there hanged in the centre of the ward that J. D. Viviani Nugent now adorns. When the life had been choked out of him his body was dragged through the streets of Dublin to Stephen's Green, where it was daubed with tar, loaded with chains, and suspended from a gibbet which stood on the spot now occupied by the equestrian statue of King George II. of England.

Sir John Perrot arrived four days afterwards as English Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Part of his instructions were to convert St. Patrick's Cathedral into a college, but Adam Loftus, who drew a sum of about £20,000 per annum of present day money from Patrick's Cathedral revenues alone, would have none of it. He successfully plotted against Perrot, suborned perjurers, and secured Perrot's condemnation by Elizabeth. Fearing that the project of a college might be revived, Loftus hit upon an in-

genious plan. The ruins of the priory of All Hallows stood where Trinity College now stands. The priory, founded and endowed by the Irish, had been seized by the English Government fifty years before, who confiscated its revenues, drove out the priests, but left the building to moulder to ruin. "It was to those ruins," says Burke, "Loftus turned, and it was upon those ruins he resolved to raise the new university, and thus save the Cathedral and shelter from exposure the scandalous leases he had made, when Dean of St. Patrick's, to members of his own family." Thus T.C.D. was founded to cover up Adam Loftus's manifold swindling.

Loftus lived until 1605 when he died one of the wealthiest men in Europe. In an age of cruelty and avarice he was distinguished above his contemporaries. He imbrued his hands in the blood of hundreds of innocent people to the end of amassing gold. One of his devices was to fine those who were "obstinate in Popery." If they objected to pay the fine they were speedily done to death by imprisonment. "The word alone without the sword is not sufficient to bring the people of this realm from Popery," he wrote. He has been described as "the Monster of a monstrous age for Bigotry, Avarice and Cruelty," but in one particular this is wrong. He was not bigotted, for he, personally, believed in no religion. His offspring were unfortunately numerous, and from him the Earls of Ely were descended, and on the female side the Dukes of Wellington.

The "respect" which the present successor of Loftus in the English Government of Ireland flaunts in the face of the Irish, for his countrymen's memory is probably due to Loftus's desire and power to regulate all opinions in this country. Those who objected to have their opinions regulated were sought to be cajoled "by the Rack, by Torture, by Inquisition and by Imprisonment."

We have Inquisition and Imprisonment still, and the Torture too, though of a more refined nature. Between Loftus and his successors there never has been any difference in spirit, but the first in many years who has had the honesty to avow his respect for Adam Loftus is the English "Liberal" and "Home Rule" Government's Wimborne.

LOGIC FOR "INDEPENDENT" LEADERWRITERS

No dog has two tails,
Each dog has one tail more than no dog,
Therefore each dog has three tails.

HOME RULERY FOOLERY.

Denis Gwynn, kinsman of Stevie of the "Linseed Lancers", is running "New Ireland", a new weekly paper. Stevie is so busy training to outshine Mike O'Leary that he hasn't time to bless himself. There are a lot of interesting things in Ireland—interesting even to the crank and sorehead. For example, the following occurs in an article headed *New Ireland* :—

"We do not exceed the limits of ordinary prudence when we build on the assumption that no obstacle will intervene to prevent the operation of the Home Rule Act. We insist that the Act comes into force automatically at the end of the war, unless it is in the meantime annulled. Only an apathetic Ireland can make its annulment possible. *At the same time (the italics are ours) we confess that there is in Ireland too much of the spirit of doubt; this listless cynicism is to be found in too many quarters, which declares that having been defeated so often in the past, we are certain to be worsted once more.*"

Now, forget for a moment the ambiguity and wretched English of the preceding (the journal is to be "literary" by the way), and consider what the writer is striving to say. He has assumed—a prudent assumption he urges as apology—that no obstacle will prevent the operation of the Home Rule Bill. We have here a confidence in the armies of the Allies which we trust the Allies will not betray.

Again, the Act is to come into force at the end of the war, unless annulled, and only an apathetic Ireland can make its annulment possible. At the same time, there is in Ireland too much of the spirit of doubt and listless cynicism.

Having annihilated, in two lines, the German and Austrian armies, the writer turns to home affairs. He admits that the Bill falls through if Ireland is apathetic, and his succeeding remark admits, at least by inference, that if Ireland is not apathetic, the people are not overmuch inclined to worry themselves whether the Bill comes into operation or not.

All this is interesting when we remember that day by day John is made the recipient of votes of confidence. He undoubtedly needs them, and only for them nobody would ever suspect that he represented anyone but himself; but the people as a whole seem to consider that they have done enough for

everyone, if they give John the vote of confidence. When the vote is passed, they go back to their land and study manures and other questions more important and remunerative. John is in the political business; the votes cheer him up and they cost nothing, so the practical Irishman gives them to him, and then casts round for a "thorough-bred" to work off on the War Office Veterinary expert.

IRELAND AND CONSCRIPTION.

"Is it Conscription?" asked my 6.30 White "Herald" on Wednesday night last, and the sapient Abbey Street sheet answered its own question in the affirmative. Conscription or any other form of compulsory service is not yet the LAW OF THE LAND, and I suppose I am not infringing any clause of the Defence of the Realm Act by discussing the question.

The Government is still undecided on the matter. It has, of late, spoken so frequently with two voices that the man in the street is uncertain as to its definite policy. But the following objections to the scheme are worth considering.

The British workingman is a strong militarist when some other fellow does the fighting job. Those of them worth having are being got in by the voluntary system; an army of unwilling conscripts would have very little stomach for a fight. The introduction of compulsory service would undoubtedly lead to serious labour troubles. General strikes might be expected in many quarters. The conscriptionists in carrying on an agitation for their pet idea will, undoubtedly, provoke an opposition campaign amongst the workers, and Great Britain will present to the world a record example of internal dissension. In Ireland the proposal would be as obnoxious as the attempted suppression of the drink industry. The argument, valid enough in its way, that such suppression was essential for the successful prosecution of the war, was overruled by the strong opposition of the vested interests. Notwithstanding a similarly strong case for conscription, the proposal would have to be withdrawn in face of the determined opposition of the whole population, or no one doubts that the whole Irish people, no matter what views they may have on voluntary recruiting, loathe the very idea of conscription. The people are already taking alarm, and one may shortly expect a spontaneous uprising as in the case of the liquor taxes, compelling the Party leaders to take extreme steps against the proposal. Mr.

Redmond has already suffered greatly in his prestige by having to follow the country instead of leading it on the liquor tax question. He would do well to see he is first this time. He must remember that he and the "Freeman" papers have repeatedly assured the people that conscription would not be enforced. The fact that they had to give such assurances shows how unpopular the proposal would be with their own supporters. Let him see that he is not again dragged at the tail of an indignant people.

Let me show, however, how conscription would defeat its own ends. I have already stated that unwilling conscripts make bad fighting material. My "Daily Mail" on Thursday is eloquent on the fact in its description of the war prisoners' camps in Russia, which, it says, are full of war-sick Austro-Slavs. Professor Kettle is anxious to get the farmers' sons into Kitchener's army. He acknowledges they are unwilling. They will be more unwilling to be conscripted. It would not be the first time for Irish peasants to go on their keeping, and the number of men required to "round up" the male population would have to equal, if not surpass, the number secured.

I am still doubtful if the British Government will take such an unpopular step.

THE RETURNED.

A poem from Katherine Tynan appears in "New Ireland"; it is entitled "A Prayer—For those who shall return," presumably from the war. A correspondent informs me that he has seen many who have returned and he thinks God is more merciful to the ones who meet death in Flanders than to the unfortunate mental and physical wrecks he has seen. He asks me if I could say if Mike O'Leary has yet returned from the front. I am afraid that to answer that question is beyond my power. Whilst in Cork recently I was informed that O'Leary was to make his appearance on a recruiting platform. But through some miscarriage in the arrangements he didn't materialise. I would like to learn the exact reason for this. O'Leary, sane, and even minus a limb or two, would be a valuable asset to the recruiting authorities, and yet, and yet, I hear he won't be forthcoming. Ta fadh le gach nith.

Scraps of paper.—British naturalisation papers.

THE FREEMAN CENSOR.

Four North County Dublin priests appeared at recruiting meetings on Sunday last. As in the remainder of Ireland only three Catholic bishops and fifteen priests out of some 3,000 have publicly appeared at or written in support of such meetings, the fact is remarkable. The meetings were held at Portmarnock and Howth—the latter being presided over by the Englishman Gaisford St. Lawrence, who is pressing the English Government to restore the title of Lord Howth in his favour, and the former by Mr. T. L. Plunkett, the person who wrote to Lord Kitchener in November last asking him to prosecute Monsignor Hallinan of Limerick for his statement in the "Catholic Bulletin", that Germany had a case as well as England in this war. Plunkett is a professing Catholic, an ex-soldier in the British Army, and younger than some of the British officers now at the front. He stays at home and rides to hounds, and presides at meetings to get others to go out and do his fighting.

The chief orator at Plunkett's meeting was Fr. Magill, P.P. of Donabate. The "Irish Times" reported him, the "Express" reported him, the "Independent" reported him, but the subsidised "Freeman" suppressed his speech. A correspondent of the "Irish Times" wants to know why. So do we. We remember Father Magill in the city of Dublin twenty years ago. We remember his virulent attacks on the Dublin Parnellites—men and women. We remember the action the Dublin Parnellites took in the matter. We remember how silence fell like a pall upon the Rev. Father Magill, and until his re-appearance on Sunday to denounce the "pro-Germans," as he used to denounce Parnell and the Dublin men and the Dublin women who stood by the Parnellite party, we had forgotten his existence.

But as Dr. Joseph M. Day, of Bray, writes to the "Irish Times" to know why the "Freeman" suppressed Father Magill, perhaps the organ of the Castle will answer. "Dear Mr. Brayden" knows Father Magill well. Let the dear man assure the doubtful Day that there was no "Undue Influence".

THE ATROCITY PRESS.

A jury of Englishmen, appointed by the Government, after hearing the statements of enemies of Germany, has found Germany guilty of committing atrocities. Moreover, full details of the atrocities have been published at sixpence a copy. The

details of some of these atrocities are, says the virtuous English press, of such a nature that a respectable newspaper cannot reproduce. This the Government is recommended to obviate by reducing the Atrocity Book to one penny—a price which will place the salacious stories within the reach of every boy and girl and grown up degenerate. A hundred years ago the same thoughtful British Government appointed an impartial writer to tell the world what the Irish did in 1798. His name was Richard Musgrave, and his "History of the Irish Rebellion" shows that the Irish in 1798, were, in all respects save one, far superior to the Germans in committing atrocities. The Irish of 1798, according to the British Government history, delighted in murdering women and destroying churches. To put a child on the end of a pike was a joy to them; to poison innocent families by putting arsenic in the bread they ate—sheer ecstasy. There are Irishmen who do not believe these things. But they have the British Government's word for it. In fact, anyone who is inclined to believe that the Germans are still, as they were formerly, a humane and kindly people, has only to reflect that these charges are by no means new. England is not alleging against the Germans to-day, any atrocity she has not alleged against Ireland for the past three hundred years.

TRINITY WARD.

Miss Williams has been elected to succeed Larcán O'Toole in the Councillorship of above ward. Mr. Foran was a weak candidate in many respects. His name has been associated with frequent defeat, and also he is a reputed Socialist. Socialism is not a vote-pulling card in Dublin, and a sure way to keep out of the Municipal Council is to advocate it.

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