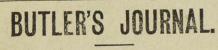
BUTLER'S JOURNAL, SEPTEMBER, 1896.



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FREDERICTON, SEPTEMBER, 1896

ONE CAUSE OF IRISH DISCONTENT

Reynold's Newspaper, published in London, Eng., gives the following statistics showing how Ireland is discriminated against financially by the British government. It will thus be seen that those who oppose home rule oppose fair play, and are more or less interested in the robbery of a weaker nation.

"A question connected with Ireland which must arise almost immediately -probably in the next budget-is that of its financial relation to Great Brit ain, It has taken six years for the Irish Royal Commission to investigate this matter-a scandalous instance of Government inaptitude, or perhaps duplicity to hide the injustice done to Ireland in this respect. Since the paper union the taxation of Ireland per head has increased at a startling rate, without any adequate correspond ing advantages. She has, in fact, been financially 'sweated' for the benefit of England. Before the union the taxes in Ireland never, as the evidence before the Royal Commission conclusively proves, exceeded 9s. per head: now it is as high as £2 6s. and this with a falling population and decaying or extinct industries. In Great Britain, on the contrary, imperial taxation has decreased since the beginning of the century. "To the Irish "accounts are charged an army of 30,000 soldiers and some 13,000 armed constabulary, costing £3,500,000 annually. This is the price paid as an alternative for self nually to the Sultan of Turkey be government. The Local Government based upon the ratio of the reven-Board, the Board of Works, ues of the island."

the law charges are nearly as great in Ireland as in England-facts affording a stern condemnation of the incompetence of English misgovernment in Ireland and of the injustice done to her indigent population.

England's policy toward Ireland has driven a couple of millions of Irish people to compete in the labor markets of Great Britain-people who would have much preferred to stay at home had there been a chance of a decent living for them in their native country. Finally, the expatriated Irishman in America revenges himself against the conquering and evicting nation by fomenting ill will between the States and Great Britain, with the result that England is put to several additional millions yearly of war expenditure to meet eventualities. England has put a people in chancery. Ireland is the Bleak Honse of the nations. Under English misrule her population dropped from 8,172,120 in 1841 to 4,704,750 in 1891, and in this year is not more than 4,500,000.

Thus it will be seen that:

England, the predominant partner has been taxing her junior partner to the tune of nearly \$14,000,000 every year in excess of what was justly due. This payment has been forced by the strong hand of an overwhelming majority. The Irish protested and were silenced ; but now the Royal Commission on which English members are in of Mr. Laurier's on the subject a great majority, has reported that the Irish were right and the English wrong to the amount of £2,750,000 per annum. When the truth is known was not to be expected that Canain all its bearings and the British pub- da should always remain a colony. lic slowly assimilates this very portentous fact, it cannot fail to enormously reinforce the movement for Home rule. England is rich, Ireland is poor; strong, Ireland England is weak; England is has

imposed upon Ireland her system of taxation: with the result of compelling her to pay, not one-twentieth of the an old saying that "man proimperial revenue, which is all that could fairly be claimed from her, having regard to her wealth and taxable resources, but one-seventh-the difference between these two fractions of Canada attained in a very amiamounting annually to no less than two or three quarter millions sterling, Assuming that this has been persisted in for half a century, it means that the his profitable hold on us without a English have extorted from their poor- murmur. It is not among the leser Irish fellow subjects a sum of £100,-000,000 sterling (\$500,000,000) more than they ought to have been asked to pay. The sum is stupendous, in view of the born into the family of nations smallness of Ireland, its limited resources, and the poverty of its people. And still people will tell us "that Ireland is well governed and that her troubles arise chiefly from the rebelliousness of her people, who are never satisfied and who do not know when they are well governed' Can they shut their eyes to these facts, reluctantly disclosed by an English Commission? The solution of the Cretan difficulty is "that the Cretans be given complete antonomy and the control of their own finances under a general guarantee by the European powers, and the amount of tribute to be paid an-

Why not give such a guarantee to and our reasons for the change Ireland? The foregoing, if there have been challenged time and was nothing else, would go to show again, sometimes in adverse arguthat Ireland stands as much in need ment but more generally in a canof protection from England as did spirit of inquiry, and we have Crete does from Turkey.

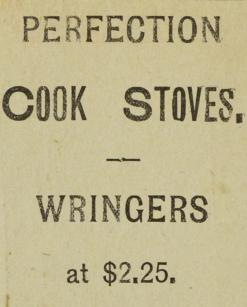
THE GOOD SEED BEARING FRUIT.

As a result of the revival of the Independence movement by the organization of Canadian Independence Clubs in Windsor, Ont., Montreal and other parts of Canada, similar clubs have been started in the United States. The honor of forming the first club of the kind in the United States belongs to the Canadians of Biddeford, Me. and we learn that in several other of the New England States similar clubs will shortly be formed. It is significant of the progress which the independence movement is making, that in an article referring to it, published a few days ago in the Soir, the new French organ of the Liberal party here in Montreal a quotation was made from a speech The new Canadian Prime Minister is reported as having said that it but would one day take her place among the independent nations of the world. The change, however, he believed, would come about in a "very amiable way." There is no reason why it should not; there is poses, but God disposes," and though Mr. Laurier as well as all of us wish to see the independence able way. we do not anticipate that the great John Bull will relinquish sons of history, certainly, and there is no record of any people being without pain or trouble of some kind to either mother or child, or perhaps both. However, sufficient unto the day is the work thereof; meanwhile adherents to the cause of independence are coming in in numbers daily. Never before in the history of Canada was there such an interest excited in the future of their country, especially among the rising generation, or such a spirited discussion of the respective merits of Colonialism and Independence. There is no rebellion against the mother country, but a general restlessness and chafing at the restraints imposed by foreign domination. Even the boys on the streets and on the farms have taken it up,

succeeded in convincing the most of them. There is really no opposition to independence except from a few ultra royalists and English tories. The only question is : "Is it feasible or practicable just at present." There is room for a difference of opinion on this subject; but ultimate independence is the goal to which we all aspire.

The organization of these Clubs throughout the land and in the neighboring Republic will accomplish great good in brushing away objections and giving the people a clearer idea of their rights and duties. We take no little amount of credit to ourselves for our labors in THE JOURNAL in keeping the matter before the public, and have not the slightest doubt that if there were proper organizers among the friends of the movement in the Maritime Provinces, a Club could be raised in every city and town.

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