

THE CENTRE REPORTER

FRED. KURTZ, Editor and Prop'r
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THE PARNELL AGONY

The Strain on the Nationalists and the Public Continues.

PARNELL IN SELF VINDICATION

He Presides in Person Over the Meeting Called to Decide His Political Fate—Parnell Characterized Gladstone as a "Garrulous Old Gentleman"—A Stormy Session.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—The meeting of the Irish members of parliament yesterday, which was called to decide upon the question of the leadership of the Nationalist party, was called to order by Mr. Parnell.

The proceedings were of the stormiest character. Mr. Barry moved that Mr. Parnell be requested to retire. Mr. Nolan moved an amendment that the question of retirement be postponed until the members should personally ascertain the views of their constituents and the party should meet in Dublin.

Mr. Sexton hotly protested against an adjournment. A majority of the party, he declared, desired to keep the leadership unsullied and unshared. Mr. Sexton's remarks were frequently interrupted by tremendous cheering from Mr. Parnell's opponents, who comprised a majority of those present.

After Mr. Redmond had finished his speech Mr. Parnell took the floor and said the time had come when he must speak out against the opposition within the party, caused by Mr. Gladstone's letter, those responsible for the decision of the party seemed to forget what was due to themselves, their country and him.

Mr. Parnell continued: "That Healey is here today to destroy me is due to myself, but I am glad he is here, even to destroy me, if he understands the meaning and effect of his proceeding. Healey reminds me of my services. He has not been slow to remind me of them at any time. I understand he attended the recent meeting in Dublin, which resigned me, I never by word or deed counseled attacks upon him, but allowed the old man to go down to an honored grave rather than seek to step into the shoes of a politician who, however grave his faults, has created a great movement and given me and many others the power to participate therein."

"Garrulous Old Gladstone." "I have been asked about the Harcourt interview. I was told there that Mr. Gladstone's communication was not to be divulged to any of my colleagues; yet because I did not denounce his proposals at once I am accused of deceiving the party. Gladstone told me that none of the proposals was final. The chief proposal of all, the retention of thirty members at Westminster was subject to revision. For me it was a question of drafting a bill; it was a question of the weak judgment of an English politician; a question of dealing with a garrulous old gentleman who monopolized the conversation and with whom, as everybody who knows him knows, it is difficult to get in a word edgewise."

"Before you vote my deposition be sure you are getting value for it. On Saturday I made a proposal to Mr. McCarthy, to let Gladstone, Harcourt and Morley give him letters declaring that in the event of the return of the Liberals to power a plan of home rule will be proposed in which the control of the constabulary will be vested in an Irish executive, responsible to an Irish parliament, which will also have powers to settle the Irish land question. Mr. McCarthy went to Gladstone and made these proposals with my assurance that if these concessions were made I would retire from public life. Mr. Gladstone has replied that he will not hold any communication with me as leader of the party."

Liberal Leaders Unreliable. Mr. McCarthy—No, no. Mr. Parnell (continuing)—The same proposals were placed before Harcourt, who replies that under no circumstances will he give any promises whatever here or hereafter to any Irish party. Remember Harcourt is to be your leader when Gladstone dies. The same man has declared that his limits on home rule are Chamberlain's scheme of local government. If Harcourt comes into power he will give you local government and plenty of coercion. I know what Harcourt will do for you, what Gladstone will do, and what Morley will do. I know there is not a single one to be trusted unless you trust yourselves."

"If I am to leave you to-night I should like to leave you in security. It is not a fair thing to me to ask me to see you within sight of the promised land that I should leave you, having gone so far, until you are absolutely sure of Ireland and I can go no further."

Without final action the meeting adjourned until today at noon. During the proceedings Mr. Parnell ruled on the reference to his conduct in the O'Shea case. This brought him into frequent collision with the speakers, notably Mr. Healey. The debate was at times very acrimonious. The scenes around the parliament buildings were unprecedented, crowds of members and others gathering outside of the halls and in the vicinity of the room where the Nationalists were in session eagerly waiting for some tidings of the result of the meeting.

ON THE TIDAL WAVE

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FOR 1891.

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PENNSYLVANIA INDUSTRIES.

What is Going on in the Factories of the State.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 29.—Owing to the inability to secure a sufficient number of hands, Gould's hosiery factory in Lansdale is removed to Bethlehem, where a skating rink has been leased for the purpose.

The Conshohocken Worsted mill, incorporated recently, and which is the No. 1 mill of the old company, is to be devoted to the spinning of yarns on the French system, the Conshohocken mill No. 2 now organized as a new company, with a capital of \$300,000, will make woolen cloth.

The Sable Iron works, Pittsburg, have put more puddling furnaces in operation, and when all are completed, they will own forty-two furnaces.

At Kensington Bockman & Co. will have 250 additional looms in the manufacture of fine dress goods.

The Eagle Hosiery mill, of Mahanoy, has sufficient work for an increased force of operatives, and one of the large firms of Philadelphia is to erect a new mill for the production of cotton ribbed hosiery.

The Chester Steel Casting company, Chester, has about doubled its former force of hands and has large orders for steel castings.

At Schuylkill Haven Warner's Shoe factory is again in the full tide of activity.

Saved from the Flood.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Dec. 1.—The Lumbermen's Exchange have compiled statistics relative to the logs swept away by the great flood of June 1, 1889, which show a remarkable state of facts. The logs that went astray on that memorable day aggregated something over 300,000,000 feet, a greater portion of which was carried into Chesapeake bay. The committee of the exchange, to which was entrusted the great work of collecting this timber, have succeeded in saving 180,000,000 feet, thus reducing the actual loss to the owners to not more than 15 per cent.

Short Time in the Mines.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Dec. 2.—Many of the collieries operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron company were started on three-quarter time yesterday. A month ago they were reduced from ten hours to nine, but the demand for coal is so light that a further reduction is necessary.

A Mining Settlement Decried.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Dec. 2.—Work was suspended in the Cameron colliery, owned by the Pennsylvania railroad, last evening. The mining settlement of Hickory Ridge is deserted. During the past few days most of its population of 300 have left for the Pittsburgh bituminous region.

Secretary Stone Resigns.

HARRISBURG, Dec. 1.—Secretary of the Commonwealth Stone has resigned, made the force in the department good-by and left for Washington to assume his duties in congress. Governor Beaver at once appointed J. Longenecker, of Bedford, who was deputy secretary, to the position of secretary, as Mr. Stone's successor.

An Ill Founded Mill.

HAMBURG, Pa., Dec. 1.—The foundation under the large engine at the West Hamburg Rolling mill gave way and the mill will be compelled to suspend operations for a week or two until the necessary repairs can be made. Over 100 hands are idle.

Hon. H. M. Watts Dead.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 1.—Hon. H. M. Watts died at his home, 2309 Walnut street. He was 84 years old, and his death can be attributed to no other cause than old age. He was a lawyer and statesman, and was born in Carlisle, Pa., Oct. 10, 1808.