

## JOHN BRIGHT, M. P.

INTERESTING NOTES BY ONE OF HIS COLLEAGUES IN PARLIAMENT.

O'Connor Power Tells How He First Heard John Bright—His Friendship for America—Ireland—Mr. Bright's Story—His Last Days.

John Bright has been the lifelong friend of America and American institutions. During the civil war he stood almost alone amongst the leading men of England in his advocacy of the cause of the Union, and his speeches delivered on that subject are the finest of all his oratorical achievements. It is a little more than twenty years ago since I first heard him speak, in his native town, Rochdale, and the man, the subject and the occasion would have been forever impressed on my memory even if I had not the privilege afforded me, at a later period, of knowing him personally and meeting him occasionally in society and of talking with him in the house of commons and elsewhere on those subjects in which, as members of parliament, we were both interested. This was the first great speech I ever heard and he the first great speaker. I was only a boy at the time, just beginning the study of politics. I listened to the great orator with breathless attention, and I remember that at a point in his address, when the large audience was hushed in a deep silence, hanging on every word, I uttered the old maxim, "Old men never say the effect of this speech was almost tragic. When he concluded the house looked like a chamber of death, and there was hardly a dry eye in the whole assembly."

Mr. Bright has been throughout his whole career a consistent advocate of the cause of peace. His principles, as a member of the Society of Friends, and he holds that it is a violation of the moral law to draw the sword except as a defensive weapon. Acting on these principles he resigned office in Mr. Gladstone's government, in 1852, on account of the bombardment of the forts of Alexandria by the English fleet. As I spoke and voted in the house on his side of the question, I had some conversation with him after the debate, and he took pains to explain to me, in extenuation of Mr. Gladstone's action on that occasion, that Mr. Gladstone supported him in the cabinet as long as he could do so without destroying the government, and that he yielded only when he had to choose between sanctioning some form of military operations in Egypt and the breaking up of his ministry, which would have meant the return of the Tories to power and a still more active prosecution of hostilities, them, against the Egyptian National party.

His attitude on the home rule question marks rather the change which has come over Mr. Gladstone and the bulk of the Liberal party than any change in Mr. Bright, for since the demand for home rule was first made, in its modern form, by the late Mr. Butt, he has been avowedly opposed. He relied almost entirely on the tones of his magnificent voice and their appropriate modulation for the adequate expression of those passages which were charged with peculiar emphasis or strong emotion. The effect on the audience was the best proof of his unrivaled power. Every word went home with the precise meaning which it was designed to carry, and every phrase was so forcible in form, so noble in sentiment and feeling, so sound in taste and judgment, that the entire assembly, after listening with beating hearts throughout the delivery of an elaborate period, burst forth at the close in round after round of the heartiest applause.

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In personal appearance the senator is a tall, fine looking man with a decided cast. He is a scholarly man, of quiet manners and tenacious in debate.

A New Hypnotic Phenomenon.

M. Liegeois contributes to a recent number of *The Revue de l'Hypnotisme* an article describing a new hypnotic phenomenon, in the field of a "negative hallucination." This term describes a state which the suggestion that a certain person, a certain object in the field of vision, remains unseen, has been observed. The state is explained as an inhibition of perception as well as consciousness. The impression is received, but ignored. Having a third party to suggest to one of his subjects that he will be invisible to her, it is found that she does not hear him, see him or even feel the prick of a pin when he holds the pin, reacting normally to all other persons. If, however, M. Liegeois calls out his name, Camille, or any other name, he hears and obeys the command; if similarly told to stand at his side, she does so; and so on for every sense. While she does not hear him, she none the less really can hear him. There is a sort of dual personality, one-half of which obeys the negative suggestion, while the other is automatically regulated, and obeys any suggestion not directly in conflict with previous one. The further development of this study promises interesting results.—Science.

Dangers of Chamois Hunting.

The experience gained in ordinary deer stalking is of little use to the chamois hunter—the region in which the game is to be seen is so different, while the agility and watchfulness of the two animals compel the cultivation of very different kinds of adroitness. The man who is fit to win and wear the much prized "Gambor," or long tail of the chamois, the back of the head, must be a man of iron muscles and sinews, a bold, unerring eye, and a courage that must often be prepared to face terrible odds, to avoid the danger of having to meet others much worse.

Without the power of undergoing fatigue and privations it is vain his attempting to become an adept in this sport. And one of the very charms of the game is the knowledge that he cannot obtain his interest by any kind of adventitious advantage. Neither man nor dog can be of any use to him. He must rely entirely on himself; and if once he gets troubled with a dread of hunger or cold, or abyss or crevase, or slippery glissade, he may much better try his fortune at humbler game. In short, chamois hunting is Alpine climbing, plus the fact that it is the antelope, and not the guide, who selects the traveler's route.—London Standard.

A Musical Moment.

Philadelphia Girl (at conservatory of music)—I love Beethoven.

Chicago Girl—What's the matter with Wagner?

St. Louis Girl—Yes; he's all right!—Philadelphia Record.

We never thoroughly know a man until we hear him laugh.—Squire Hobbs.

## AT BARCELONA.

Trade Men Is Poorly Represented at the Big Spanish Show.

They have been having a gay time at the world's fair in Barcelona, Spain. In Europe such affairs are usually enlivened by the reception of royalties who attend them, and found that, although his evenings were made pleasant in that way, he lost his time and some of his capacity for work. Mr. Bright has been a total abstainer during the greater part of his life, and has now learned to take a little wine at dinner, as if to lay down any claim to superior virtue which he might be suspected. Unlike Mr. Gladstone, who never touches tobacco, Mr. Bright is a great smoker. The smoking room of the house is a frequent resort of his during the sittings of parliament, and when he saunters to the Reform club in Pall Mall he is likely to be found in the galleries of the fragrant wood company.

To the relative importance of his great speeches, the one which he delivered in the house of commons in 1856, while the Crimean war was in progress, is the best remembered in London, chiefly because of one beautiful image which he employed to move the sympathies of the house in favor of peace. Intelligence had just come of the loss of many valuable lives in the battle of Inkermann, and the decorations of the United States had come to the exhibition, so that the decorations of the United States quarter are the finest in the building. But what a showing of articles! There is a pavilion of Florida water, two street cars, some machinery and tools, a clothes wringer and varnisher. The two most creditable showings are a certain make of sewing machines and some chandeliers. There is a profusion of patent medicines, soap, tobacco and polish.

Why is it that the manufacturers of the United States, where there are so many new mechanical devices, have not thought proper to be represented at the exposition doesn't appear. It is quite possible that Spain is not regarded as a

country of great interest.

The expression of the speech was the best of Mr. Bright's brother, Jacob, as a member for the city of Manchester. Mr. Bright himself had represented Manchester, but was defeated some years before by local jealousies and chiefly through the influence of Mr. Potter, a leader of the Liberal party in that city and father of the present member for Rochdale, who is also the honorary secretary of the Cobden Club. The Liberals of Rochdale met to celebrate the Manchester victory, and Mr. Bright's speech was devoted to a vindication of Liberal policy, as expressed in the well known watchwords of the party—Peace, Retrenchment and Reform. I had read many of his speeches before I had an opportunity of hearing him, and from their style and contents, so robust and uncompromising, so full of concentrated passion, so withering in their invective, so scornful and denunciatory towards all opposition and wrong, I expected his oratory would be characterized by a singular energy and that his gestures would be as forcible and expressive as his words. I was surprised to find, on the contrary, that his manner was remarkably quiet, and that his gestures were very few, and these of the simplest description. He relied almost entirely on the tones of his magnificent voice and their appropriate modulation for the adequate expression of those passages which were charged with peculiar emphasis or strong emotion. The effect on the audience was the best proof of his unrivaled power. Every word went home with the precise meaning which it was designed to carry, and every phrase was so forcible in form, so noble in sentiment and feeling, so sound in taste and judgment, that the entire assembly, after listening with beating hearts throughout the delivery of an elaborate period, burst forth at the close in round after round of the heartiest applause.

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