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ALL EAST, WEST,

- AT-1044 O STREET. E. B. SLOSSON,

HISTORY OF THE ORGANIZED STRUG-

How the Land League Was Formed, and posed to Each Other.

[Copyright by American Press Association.] When Michael Davitt, one armed, thin, worn with prison life and sickness, was given a ticket of leave and released from the iron gray walls of Dartmoor there was little thought in the minds of those who saw him walk away or those who waited



MICHAEL DAVITT for him that he carried with him an idea destined to revolutionize that which under the name of the Irish question had been the unsolvable problem of English states-Lincoln Trunk Factory the unsolvable problem of English states. An ardent Fengus and a firm believer in physics. ardent Fenian and a firm believer in phys-ical force, Davitt, during his eleven years behind prison walls, had learned, first from the study of Mazzini's career in a life of the great Italian conspirator, and second from reflection, that to do any good for Ireland he must have a cause which would appeal to all the Irish people in one way or the other, and in addition he must not an-tagonize English public opinion by the methods he pursued. This cause he found in the land, on which, either as proprietor or laborer, nine-tenths of the people depended for their bread.

The man had the nerve to wait for two years until a partial famine came. During that time he satisfied himself that the Irishmen in America would support those in Ireland with money. Of the men in parliament he selected Charles Stewart Parnell as his colleague in the work, and to him proposed his plans. Parnell agreed, provided he had full control of the parlia-mentary work and the naming of the members elected by the nationalists. And so the Land League was born, and the long struggle began which has resulted in such great changes. There were several basic ideas about the league which were new in Irish politics. The weapon was to be con-stitutional agitation, in parliament and out. There was to be systematic relief for evicted tenants. The whole people were to be welded together for one purpose, and sectional feelings and jealousies were to be stamped out so far as possible.

The league took like wildfire. The farmers, laborers, dreamers of an Irish repub-lic, theorists, physical force men, each and all accepted it. Many gave their adherence without much heart, taking it as a makeshift. The Irishmen in America, Australia and Canada welcomed it gladly; the plan of systematic relief for those who were suffering attracted them. Branches sprang up in every county and town, and from the central office in Sackville street in Dublin Davitt, who had the league work under his control, ruled Ireland as no lord lieutenant ever ruled it. Slowly but surely the work of forming a nation out of the disunited, disorganized people of Ireland went on, and slowly but surely the work of directing the relief of Irishmen outside of Ireland into an organized channel was accomplished.

In the meantime neither the government nor the landlords of Ireland were idle. Coercion bills were passed to suppress the league, but at the same time so genuine is the English belief in agitation that with these came measures for relief of Irish troubles. The league in and out of Par-liament had secured a hearing from the English people, and this was proved by the It did not take long for the Irish people to realize that agencies were at work which brought about reforms when needed and secured concessions in a manner which was utterly new in Irish history, and with the realization of this fact the allegiance given to the league became more and more

The landlords of Ireland and their sympathizers could not be expected to look at the work going on before their eyes with any degree of complacency. One of the most picturesque figures in Irish politics and English society was Arthur MacMurrough Kavanagh, the man who was born



CHARLES STEWART PARNELL. [From a late house of commons sketch. ment of the pathetic about the short,

maimed figure above which rose the magnificent head. In spite of physical diffi-culties Mr. Kavanagh made himself one of the boldest riders to hounds, one of the best whips and one of the most daring vachtsmen of Ireland. The same energy which conquered almost insurmountable NORTH AND SOUTH difficulties in the way of sport drove him high up in politics and public life, and no one was listened to with more respect in the house of commons than he who always addressed the speaker sitting in his chair. Irish of the old Irish blood, for Mr. Kavanagh was a lineal descendant of Art Mac-Murrough, whose very name was a battle cry for the Septs, he stood by his order and City Passenger Agent organized in opposition to the Land League

THE FIGHT FOR IRELAND the Land Corporation of Ireland. The league had met a forman worthy of its sharpest steel. Boycotting was almost de-prived of its power when emergency men could be placed in the fields of the land GLE BEGUN BY MICHAEL DAVITT.

How the Land League Was Formed, and the Work Accomplished by It—Parnell and Davitt, Once Co-workers, New Opposed to Each Other.

could be placed in the fields of the land-lord, and the propaganda which was carried on in England produced a great effect on public opinion. What Davitt had foreseen had come to pass. The question of the land had divided Ireland into two great camps, and the English people were the judges of the war.

When the Land League was transformed into the National League it may be said that Davitt's work was done. He did not retire for some years afterward, and during that time he labored in his chosen field. But he and the league he founded had made the Irish people the Irish nation, one in purpose, one in method, and one in their determination to carry things to the end. Constitutional agitation had been finally accepted, and physical force—that phantom which had for so long beckened the best and bravest of Irishmen to their death in failure-was laid to rest at last. The na tion was handed over to Parnell by the man whose genius had welded it from the scattered people, and henceforth the strug-gle was in the house of commons.

But the work in the house had been begun long before. Parnell was in many respects the last man on earth one would have expected to see a colleague of a ticketof-leave man. An aristocrat, a Protestant and a landlord, he yet threw himself body and soul into the nationalist cause. He proved himself an ideal parliamentary fighter. The tactics he pursued were those of all the great English reformers, and he won just as they won. He cared not which party be won concessions for Ireland from, his only idea was to win them. He and his followers had neither English nor im-perial politics, they were there to work for Ireland alone. As his power grew with the addition of each member won in Ireland he became more and more formidable.

It is necessary, however, in order to un-derstand the struggle, that full value should be given to the sincere convictions of the English members and their constituencies. They honestly believed that it was a dangerous thing to give the people of Ireland anything approaching home rule. Their opposition was founded not on a captious dissegard of the rights of Irishmen, but on a mistaken conviction that Irishmen would not exercise those rights in a proper manner. The adoption by Mr. Gladstone and the Liberals of the Irish cause came not from a mere desire for political power, but from a change of convic tion and a belief that, after all, it was safe to trust the Irish to obey the law

When the government of Lord Salisbury succeeded that of Mr. Gladstone the harvest for which the Irish had worked so long was put off. Every great reform in



England has been defeated in its time. The would surely come, and the Pigott forger ies were sprung on Parnell. Through that trial he came safely. Then the O'Shea divorce suit was tried, and this now threatens to prevent his leading the hosts into the promised land.

The final decision as to whether Paruell shall continue in place must be given by the Irish people at the polls. The strug-gle among the members of parliament is merely the overture to the drama. The question at issue is whether the alliance with Mr. Gladstone is of more value than

Parnell's leadership. The most important man at this time is Davitt, who has declared against his old colleague. Eight years ago Davitt could have deposed Parnell had be so chosen, but whether he can do so now remains to be seen. The man is possessed of wonderful resources and has genius rather than mere ability. The battle between Parnell and himself will be a contest of giants, alongside of which all other fights in Ireland now will be child's play. Both men have a traditionary right to support from the people, both are earnest and honest and neither will ever cry "Hold!" ALFRED BALCH.

Fifty Years in the Cab. Zachariah Lord, who lives at Webster, Windham county, Conn., is the oldest rail

road engineer in New England, and among the very oldest in the country, having retired but a few years ago after fifty years in the cab. The oldest locomotive engineer in the United States is (if he has not died within a few months) a Mr. Lay, of Parke

county, Ind., who ZACHARIAH LORD. ran the engine for the trial trip on the Baltimore and Ohio and soon after made a test trip with the first engine made in Baltimore by Peter Cooper in 1830.

Mr. Lord, one of eleven children of Isaac and Hannah Lord, was born at Gardiner Me., Feb. 16, 1821, and showed a talent for machinery from his schoolboy days. In 840 he worked in Boston at locomotive building, and in 1843 took charge of the once noted "Comet," an English built lo comotive used on the Boston and Portland road. In 1851 his fame was so well estab lished that he was offered the then extraor dinary wages of \$3.50 per day to take a locomotive on the Grand Trunk railway, on which line he ran the "Jenny Lind" for ten years. His most noted feat was in 1800, when he took the Prince of Wales and suite, with various Canadian officials, from Point Lechaine to St. John, N. B., 117 miles, in a fraction less than 117 minutes.

In 1862 he returned to the United States, and was engineer on the New York and New England road for fourteen years. He never met with an accident to the train, and never caused the loss of a life through error or carelessness; but in one instance a man walked deliberately upon the track it, front of his locomotive. He has received many presents for his care and coolness and his opinion is that more than ness, and his opinion is that more than half the accidents are due to intoxicants. And finally he is in fairly good health and

## BIRTH OF JESUS.

CHRISTMAS SONG.

Written expressly for The American Press Association,



In the heart of the busy city There are souls that wait to-day, For some one to carry the message That shall chase their night away.

O hearts, that are breaking with sorrow, O souls, that are heavy with woe, Come, listen the heavenly message The angels sang long ago.

Chorus. - Grd's peace to all. etc.

Come, all that are sinking and weary, Each heart that is tired and sad ; No sin is too great for His mercy, No sorrow but He makes glad. O come, for the dawn will be breaking Of the last, glad Christmas day, And the world will soon be waking

To the last, glad Christmas day. Chorus. God's peace to all, etc.

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