

THE LEAGUE OF FREEDOM.

A Declaration of Rights and Wrongs by the Land League Convention.

Sixty-five Thousand Armed Men Employed to Oppress the Irish People.

Seven Hundred Respected Representatives Imprisoned Without Trial.

And the Country Governed by Human Bloodhounds, Who Sell Their Souls for English Gold.

Words of Cheer to the Leaguers at Home-Substantial Evidence of Support.

WASHINGTON, April 13.—The following resolutions were adopted by the Irish Land League convention: Whereas, The evil and long continued English laws relating to land in Ireland have kept the people of that country in constant poverty, subject to terrible visitations of famine and rebellion, which have been repeated afflictions, and the Irish people have at length resolved to abolish these unjust laws by public agitation and other legitimate means, and we recognize this an American as well as an Irish question—the millions of Irish-American citizens in this country having a deep and natural interest in their kindred in Ireland, by whose filial relations they are compelled to keep sending annually enormous sums of money to pay back rents of landlords and save their brethren from ruinous distress and eviction and suffering—the Irish people under this iniquitous system have been too often misunderstood by other nations through malevolent misrepresentation of the English press, which as an excuse for English oppression persistently maligns the character of the Irish people and their movements by exaggeration, and false reports of manufactured insurrection, outrage, and the people of Ireland are gagged to silence by suppression of free press, by imprisonment without trial of 700 of the most respected representative people, by the constant threat of arrest leveled at every man who dares criticize the injurious police regulations or address the people on their rights and duties; while 50,000 soldiers and 15,000 military police overawe the people under absolute control of magistrates paid by the government; while cannon are pointed in the public places of the cities of Ireland, and while public meetings are prohibited and dispersed; while police invade and search at will private dwellings and enter and remain at private meetings; while every man's liberty is at the mercy of spies and informers who are encouraged by government proclamation; while among political prisoners are four members of parliament, one of whom is acknowledged to be the leader of the Irish people, and would under free institutions be chief magistrate of the country; while possession of arms is a crime punishable by heavy fine or imprisonment; while the habeas corpus act has been for years suspended in time of profound peace, and the country is suffering under the fifty-ninth savage coercion law since the year 1800, and no reform can be expected; while 6,000,000 acres of Irish land, out of a total acreage of 14,000,000, are owned by less than 300 individuals, most of whom live in England and spend there the enormous revenue of \$200,000,000 (\$100,000,000) which they grind yearly from their Irish tenants; while twelve of these monster absentee landlords are in possession of nearly 1,900,000 acres and 58,000,000 of the Irish people own not a solitary acre; while for the protection of the proprietorial rights of these few thousand landlords a standing army of 15,000 military police is maintained at the expense of the impoverished and defenseless people; and, Whereas, The suffering Irish tenant farmers look to their kindred in America for sympathy in their efforts to better their condition and explain the motives of their agitation, and protect their good name before the world from the falsehood and aspersion of the English press; therefore, be it Resolved, That this convention of the land league of the United States send to the struggling tenant farmers of Ireland an expression of profound sympathy from the millions of their race in America, who are proud of their faithful and enduring adherence to the principles laid down by their brave leaders now in prison, and earnest assurance that we will stand by them with continued moral and financial support until they have succeeded in abolishing their antiquated and destructive land system.

Resolved, That we advise the farmers of Ireland to continue patiently in their passive resistance which has already proved so effective a weapon. We exhort them to stand unflinchingly by the policy led them by their leaders now in prison, and to keep fresh in memory those words of Charles Stewart Parnell, addressed to them before his imprisonment: "Let no man leave his post, continue your organization just as before, and have others ready to take the place of those who may be arrested. By this policy of passive endurance, the Irish people will command the respect of the world and prove themselves worthy of freedom."

Resolved, That this convention instruct its officers to confer, at their earliest opportunity, with the council of seven chosen at the Chicago convention as to feasibility of uniting under one head all land league branches now organized in the United States.

Resolved, That we express the gratitude of the Irish-American people to the ladies of Ireland who, like the "women of Limerick," took the place of their husbands and brothers, and assuming the risk of arrest and imprisonment, nobly upheld the flag of the land league.

Resolved, That while we do not neglect the release of any citizen who has violated the just laws of the land, we demand of the proper authorities, not as a form, but as a right, the immediate trial or conditional release of American citizens confined without accusations in foreign jails.

The report of the committee on constitution leaves the constitution of the land league convention substantially unchanged.

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STATE EDUCATION. Annual Meetings and Elections in Various Places.

The Growth of the Schools as Shown by New Buildings.

The North Platte district tax is only eight mills.

Fairmont levied a tax of 18 mills for school purposes.

Seventeen women voted in the district meeting at Kearney.

There are now 722 pupils in the public schools of Kearney.

A new school will be erected in the Tecumseh district soon.

C. W. Fort has resigned as principal of the Fairmont high school.

The Republican City, Harlan county district, levied a tax of 17 mills.

David City has a school population of 463, an increase of 122 over last year.

Contracts have been let for a new school building in David City, to cost \$25,388.

The school board of Kearney reported the cost of the new building at \$32,945.

The Tecumseh district has a school population of 1,308—males 461, and 847 females.

The census of school district No. 9, Antelope county, shows 163 children of school age.

Calvert has appointed a committee to secure a site and prepare for building a school.

Three women in Osceola enjoyed the inestimable boon of voting at the school election.

The Orleans district is in good shape. Additional room for primary scholars will be secured.

Congress has appropriated \$20,000 to refit the old Indian school at Genoa, Nance county.

The Arapahoe district has \$230 in the treasury. The last month of school was closed upon.

Tekamah voted a 15 mill tax for school purposes. A new school will probably be built the present year.

There are 101 children in Calvert district. Arrangements are being made for a school building.

The school levy in the Niobrara district is only 4 mills. Two saloons contribute \$1,900 to the fund.

The Fairbairn district will keep school for nine months the coming year. The levy is 25 mills.

A high school grade will be established in the school of York; \$150 will be expended in apparatus.

Pawnee City has 524 children of school age; average attendance, 297. A levy of 16 mills was made.

The proposition is now before the people of Norfolk to vote \$5,000 for purchasing a site and erecting a school building.

Stanton voted a twenty-five mill tax and agreed to turn out an Arbor day and plant trees around the schools.

Twenty-five mills is the annual levy in the Long Pine district. Six months is the limit of the school year.

The proposition to vote \$1,700 bonds to build a school house in Indianapolis has been submitted to a vote of the electors.

The school census in the David City district shows an increase during the past year of 123 children. The school year there were 232; this year the number is 404.

District No. 5, at Ord, Nance county, is \$700 in debt. A 15 mill levy was made last and an addition to the present building agreed upon. The board proposes to purchase ground on which to erect a large school.

The school board at West Point is considering a proposition to purchase all desks used by the scholars and accept them in the school. For children who study at home it would be necessary, under this arrangement, to purchase a duplicate set.

The director of the Columbus school board will hereafter receive a salary of \$200 a year for his labors. A tax of five mills was voted for ordinary expenses. A meeting to vote bonds for a new school house will be called at an early day.

The census shows that Central City has 173 children of school age, an increase of 33 over last year. The total enrollment in the schools is 247. The expense of last year was \$3,038.34. The property valuation of the district is \$106,800.

The Wood River district has \$44.87 in the treasury. New text books will be provided at public expense, which will not be charged for five years. Bonds to the amount of \$2,900 were voted to build a new school.

District 27, in Otoe county, will receive an assessment of 25 mills for the coming year. Ninemonths of school will be held. The treasurer's report shows receipts, \$3,569.75; expenses, \$1,385.52; balance, \$2,184.23.

District No. 1 at Bloomington, Franklin county, levied a tax of 25 mills. The receipts for the past year were \$3,272.70; expenses, \$2,282.50, leaving a balance of \$990.20. A committee was appointed to select a site and arrange for building a new school.

The secretary of the Crete school board reports that there are 152 women in the district who are entitled to the privilege of voting at the school elections. Of this number only four put in an appearance at the polls on either day.

The spring term of Doane college at Crete has opened satisfactorily, and the attendance will be much larger than at any similar term in the history of the institution. The college cabinet and museum are receiving various additions from time to time, and tree-planting on the ground is progressing on a large scale.

The census of Ashland shows the school population to be 443; gain over last year, 42; population of the district, 1,193; gain over last year, 60; town population, 1,000. A levy of 13 mills was made for school purposes. A large number of women attended the annual meeting.

The receipts for school purposes in the Humboldt district, last year, were \$4,234.25; expenses, \$2,116.37; balance, \$2,117.88. An old debt of \$3,000 was cancelled. Number of children of school age in the district, 370. A much larger school is needed.

The state superintendent of public instruction has issued instructions to all county superintendents, directing them not to issue certificates to females under 17 years of age, not to read in any school under the law, and the county superintendents have no alternative but to obey the order.

Beaverville expended \$11,939.07 for school purposes last year; the receipts amounted to \$12,286.45. Balance on hand \$347.38. The outstanding indebtedness of the district is \$9,708.77. The expenses of the coming year are estimated at \$4,780, to meet which a levy of 25 mills has been made. The school census just completed shows 529 children of school age within the district. By the census of 1881 there were 526.

The Sutton school board has decided to pay female teachers \$40 per month, an advance of \$10. This result was brought about by the efforts of the ladies of the district. The treasurer's report shows a cash balance of \$801.57. The census shows the number of children of school age in the district as follows: Males, 175; females, 201. Total, 376; an increase of 61 over last year.

The successful operation of high license in Wilbur, Saline county, obviates the necessity of direct taxes for school purposes. The board of directors of the district has \$254.25 on hand for the coming year. School will be held for ten months and \$1.00 expended in protection of the high license. The census shows the number of school children in the district to be 247, of which 135 are males and 112 are females. The number of children enumerated last year was 237, an increase since then of 40 children between the ages of 5 and 21 years.

General Educational Items. Thousands for education provides less than \$1 for each pupil of the public schools of Georgia.

There is in New Orleans a colored sisterhood of the Catholic church who are devoting themselves to the education of young girls, and also to their own.

It is proposed in Portland, Me., to give the children in the public schools a longer summer vacation than they have hitherto enjoyed. Three months is the period fixed upon.

There are a large number of well-equipped Roman Catholic colleges and schools in the archdiocese of Baltimore, with an aggregate attendance of 19,141 pupils. There are no less than 16 orphan asylums and asylums.

Gymnastic teaching in schools now being obligatory in France, all the elementary schools have been provided with a manual designed for boys and girls respectively. Apparatus has been presented to all schools applying for it; since 1879 more than 600 diplomas of professor of gymnastics have been granted, and even the most modest primary schools have had a number of gymnasts placed at the disposal of the boys for practice in showing a preparation for their future military service.

The introduction of attractive reading matter in the Boston public schools is reported by Superintendent Seaver to have been a practical success. Two kinds of books are used, those containing information collateral to the regular studies, and those calculated to cultivate a taste for good literature. Mr. Seaver says: "It is delightful to see the children, naturally and animated, not the child use when reading under the stimulus of freshly awakened interest; but admirably above all the skill of the teacher who can steadily use the stimulus so that year by year a natural utterance in reading becomes, in nature, a fixed habit with the children."

At the meeting of the Northwest American Teachers' association held last week the current of discussion set in the direction of practical improvement in the public schools. Moral training was advocated and the abolition of "arrest" was recommended. One teacher declared that there is too much attempted in our schools, that there should be fewer studies, and that more time should be spent in teaching those branches which will build up a strength character. He especially urged the teaching of pure English and the incoherence of teaching advanced science when the pupil is scarcely able to frame a respectable sentence in the mother tongue.

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