

## LETTER FROM ENGLAND.

In the future the first day of July will be celebrated in England and Ireland for more than one event. Nearly two hundred years ago the famous battle of the Boyne took place in Ireland, between the English, under William, Prince of Orange, and King James the Second. The latter during his troubled reign over England strove to establish, in opposition to the wishes of the people, the Papal church. The people resisted, even going so far as to try to make him forcibly submit, but failed. That was when they were led by the Duke of Monmouth. After this conquest on the part of James he became more stern than ever, and made violent attempts to force his subjects back to popery. William, Prince of Orange, Stadtholder of Holland, who had married James' eldest daughter, was invited over to England, landing at Torbay on the 5th of November, a day memorable in England as the anniversary of gunpowder plot. William soon won to his side the nobility and gentry, and when James found himself deserted he escaped to France. He made a few unsuccessful attempts to recover the ground he had lost, but in the great battle fought over the river Boyne in Ireland, on the 1st of July, 1690, he was effectually routed and fled from the battlefield to France, leaving William III conqueror. That day may well be commemorated in the hearts of all liberty-loving people, for it brought forth a better state of things in Great Britain. It caused the English constitution to be settled on a firm and solid basis, and established the principle that the rights of the people and the liberty of conscience are as sacred as the prerogative of the monarch. There were a few celebrations in Ireland in honor of the event, but through interference of the jealous Catholic processionists didn't have it all their own way. The reason that more processions and demonstrations were not held by the Orangemen was on account of the disaster that I mentioned in my last letter happening. It was the Orangemen's friends who were killed. But in Ulster province the 12th of July is the day set apart for the commemoration of the battle of the Boyne. To be in Belfast on that day is the desire of all Orangemen within ten and twenty miles. The various Orange lodges with their respective banners, flags, and other regalia, form into marching order, going three and four deep. The procession has been known to be over two miles in length. They then march to a large field, lent for the occasion by some prominent tory or Orangeman. Here drinking and speech-making are indulged in freely until the afternoon when the processionists form into order, the bands commence playing, and they return to town. They no sooner reach town than they perceive that the Papists are waiting to greet them with a volley of stones and dirt and whatever comes handy. Then the fun commences. The police are at

their wits end to know what to do; they are pinned in between the aggressive parties, and poor fellows they often fare badly. After the lodges return to their quarters, which is very often in the upper room of a public house, the Orangemen get more drink, and under its baneful influence form into mobs, armed with sticks and stones and sometimes with revolvers, they rehearse the old deeds of yore and commemorate the battle by trying to exterminate the Catholics, and *vice versa*. Many a time has your correspondent watched the women digging up the stones from the ground in order to help their husbands, and even bring delf-wares from the house and break them to increase the stock of ammunition. The 12th of July is a merry day in Ireland; but it would be considered a boisterous and unbecoming civil fight in Utah. Your readers will remember the great riots that occurred in Ireland just three years ago, when many lost their lives and trade was almost paralyzed. This originated on the 12th of July and was caused by the party feeling in the town. Belfast is a fine town, but is forever spoilt by the feelings that exist in it. It is unsafe to be seen in the streets, not only on the 12th of July, but St. Patrick's day, and the 13th of August.

In the future the 1st of July will also be remembered as the day upon which the Shah of Persia visited Great Britain. He is now in our midst and being treated right royally. He was met by the Prince of Wales upon the River Thames. He is going to visit canny Newcastle and the Tynesiders are preparing to give him a hearty welcome. Nasred-Din, the Shah of Persia—the Shah in Shah, or “king of kings”—as he is proudly called at home, visited England sixteen years ago, in 1873, so that he is not altogether a stranger.

On July 1st of this year a lamentable event happened in the arrest of Mr. Wm. O'Brien, M.P., and the serious maltreatment received by several of his most intimate friends from the “batons” of the police. It is a surprise to the observing world outside that there is not more crime and outrages in Ireland than there are. Surely no people were ever more severely put to it than they have been. Their priests, to whom they go for succor and counsel in adversity, have been imprisoned by dozens, their representative men carried off to jail by the score, and themselves prevented from holding meetings in order to bring before the country the state of things that exist in Ireland. The other day a moveable magistrate imprisoned an English member of parliament for three months because he called for “three cheers for the plan of campaign,” and for conspiring with others to give bread to starving tenants who were defending their homes.

July 20th will witness a most honorable and important event of the times—the conferring of the freedom of the city of Edinburgh upon the Irish champion, Mr. Parnell. That event portends more

than is visible on its face. It shows that the Scotchmen are in favor of home rule for the sister isle, which is tantamount to saying they are in favor of it for themselves, for Wales, and for all mankind. The recent election in West Fife possesses a significance to all opposers of home rule. In the election of a strong Home Ruler, to represent them in Parliament, with almost 1,000 of a majority, is no mean evidence of the growth of public opinion in the direction of local self-government. Not only in Scotland is this the case, but in Hyde Park, London, tens of thousands of the working men have been holding meetings and openly denouncing the policy of the government in Ireland, as fatal to the tranquility and prosperity of the country. Nor are these demonstrations confined to London, but they are almost universal in England. Saturday, the 6th of July, was the gala day, of the miners of Durham county. They meet once a year in the city of Durham, usually on the race course, to discuss their own interests as well as others. Among other subjects on the programme of the day was the Irish question, which was ably spoken to by Sir John Morley. Sir John's name is a household word in the North, and as a champion for liberty and equal rights he has few equals. In his speech on Saturday he said, “That Ireland has got representative government I know, and an Irishman has got a vote for a member of Parliament, in the same way that you have a vote for a member of Parliament. But there is a vast difference between the way in which an Irish member is treated when he gets to Parliament and the way in which an English member is treated when he gets there. I say boldly, gentlemen, that representative government in Ireland now with this government is a mockery and a farce. The Irish representatives are not consulted, their voice is not listened to even upon questions which they must understand better than other people. Gentlemen, Ireland has never had fair play. She is having it now from half the country. The liberal party is doing its best to give her fair play.” Such are the utterances of one of England's foremost advocates, and it is needless to say that the feelings expressed by the Durham County miners, on that day, plainly evidenced how strongly they favored the granting of a local self-government for Ireland. Again, American sympathy for the oppressed is too well known to need rehearsal, the latest evidence of their continued support being the beautiful illuminated addresses sent from the State of New York to Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Parnell. Also the declaration from Illinois for Home Rule, signed by all the representative men of the State, and sent to Mr. Gladstone.

It may be interesting to your Scotch readers to know that the time of the House of Commons this week will be occupied with the Scotch local government bills.

TRAMP.