

no protests against the Coercion Bill. As to the general question of Home Rule, he was in favor of some scheme of local self-government for the four divisions of the United Kingdom which would relieve the Imperial Parliament from some of the great mass of work that was burdening it, but that scheme would never have the support and would never be a success until it commanded the confidence of the Protestant minority of Ireland. They had heard with regret of the trouble between Lord Lansdowne and his tenants. A leading Land League paper in this country had described Lord Lansdowne and his class as

THIEVES AND ROBBERS,

who should suffer the fate of their class. It was a significant fact that Mr. Parnell had refrained from denouncing the violent language used by some who claimed to be his supporters and by what was called the assassin press. He referred to the fact that many leading Liberals in England had deserted him. Where was Mr. Chamberlain—

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN—Here! (Laughter.)

Mr. CLARKE, continuing, referred to the course taken by Mr. John Bright, Lord Hartington and others. In conclusion, Mr. Clarke said that while he could not see eye to eye with his countrymen on this question; he was an Irishman and not an alien. He desired the prosperity, but he believed that that prosperity would be gained, not by making Ireland a separate nation, but by allowing her to remain a portion of the Great Britain Empire. (Applause.)

Mr. STRATTON said that the preceding speaker had no right to impute the Attorney-General the motive of a mere desire for political gains. The member for Toronto had quoted many opinions against Home Rule, but the opinions he quoted were those of a privileged class. (Cheers.) The hon. gentleman had spoken as if this were merely a Catholic question. He forgot that nearly all the great leaders in the Home Rule had been Protestants. He had referred to the verdict given by the English people; but he (Mr. Stratton) ventured to say that if an appeal were made by the English people now, that decision would be reversed. They found that those who opposed Home Rule in the British Parliament had virtually closed the mouths not only of the Irish members but of the English members also who favored Home Rule. He asked the hon. member for Toronto how he would like, for any offence he might be alleged to have committed, to go to London to be tried for that offence. Yet that was what this Coercion Bill proposed to do. It would have Irishmen tried in London for offences they might be alleged to have committed in their own country. Was that British fair play? He thought, in conclusion, that the British Government could not do a wiser and a better thing than to celebrate this jubilee year of Her Majesty Queen Victoria by giving to Ireland that measure of local self-government which would alone make her happy and prosperous. (Applause.)

Mr. METCALFE said that it might have been as wise for the Attorney-General not to have moved these resolutions. But as they had been moved he must express his views. He had always favored Home Rule for Ireland, believing that it would promote not only the happiness of Ireland but the prosperity of the Empire. It could be a means of great economy if the enormous body of soldiery were removed from Ireland. (Applause.) Moreover, if this difficulty were settled, there would be a hundred Irish emi-

grants to this country where now there was but one. Mr. Metcalfe continued to speak in a homely and humorous strain which it is quite impossible to do justice to in a brief report.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Awrey, French, Evanturel and H. E. Clarke, and is still progressing as this page goes to press.