HOME RULE AND IMPERIAL UNITY: AN ARGUMENT FOR THE GLADSTONE-MORLEY SCHEME

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Home Rule and Imperial Unity: An Argument for the Gladstone-Morley Scheme by David Mabelan

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DAVID MABELAN

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DAVID MABELAN

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I^T is a remark of John Stuart Mill's, in dealing with the causes of human progress, "that the point in which, above all, the influence of remarkable individuals is decisive, is in determining the celerity of the movement. In most states of society it is the existence of great men which decides even whether there shall be any progress."

A curious proof of the justice of this observation is afforded by the effect of the action of Mr. Gladstone in proposing to grant what is called "Home Rule" to Ireland. To the dispassionate observer of the course of politics it must have been long evident that a change in the relations of Great Britain and Ireland was inevitable. Mr. Gladstone has brought the question to the very front of the political battle. From being a possibility "Home Rule," notwithstanding the result of the general election, has become a certainty. The minds of large numbers of the electors and even of thoughtful politicians have become reconciled to a change, from which a few months