

**THE IRISH PROBLEM, AS  
VIEWED BY A  
CITIZEN OF THE EMPIRE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649616398

The Irish Problem, as Viewed by a Citizen of the Empire by Anonymous

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**ANONYMOUS**

**THE IRISH PROBLEM, AS  
VIEWED BY A  
CITIZEN OF THE EMPIRE**



DA  
951

.I68



# THE IRISH PROBLEM

AS VIEWED BY

A CITIZEN OF THE EMPIRE.

---

'Paul said, But I was free born.'—*Acts*, xxii. 28.

---

LONDON:  
HATCHARDS, PICCADILLY.

1887.

4-14-27. EHW.

4-5-23  
AVM

# CONTENTS.

---

I. NATIONALISM, OR IMPERIALISM? . . .	1
II. A PURCHASE SCHEME . . . . .	18
III. HOME RULE BY INDUSTRIAL PARLIA- MENTS . . . . .	64
IV. IRELAND AND THE ENGLISH RACE . . .	114

---

## ERRATA.

- 
- P. 13, l. 9, for "Winipeg" read Winnipeg.
  - P. 52, l. 11, for "settlers" read settlors.
  - P. 75, l. 22, for "venial" read venal.
  - P. 105, l. 18, for "commonalties" read communities.
  - P. 114 (note), for "seems" read seem.
-



## THE PROBLEM OF IRELAND.

---

### I.

THE determination now to be made of the future status of Ireland must give rise to tendencies in all the molecules composing the Imperial body. Mr. Reid, the author of *Why I am a Liberal*, in his later pamphlet, on Home Rule, attacks the very term, 'the Empire.' He would convert the existing legal conception of a vast people, united by a common allegiance to their Crown, into the conception of a series of voluntary alliances—a sort of partnership at will—between a number of



independent nations, of which the new Irish nation would be the type.

Mr. Reid's contention, therefore, serves the very useful purpose of calling attention to the fact that, in facing the proposals regarding Ireland, England stands at the parting of two roads. She has to decide once for all what shall be henceforth the legalised theory of the world-wide British State. Shall the new theory of local nationalities become established ? Or shall the existing Constitutional theory of a United Empire be—not barely conserved—but made the aim of further constitutional development and held up as the object of patriotic sentiment ?

Let a Canadian, above all, be heard to protest against the entirely fallacious assumption that the case of Canada is an illustration that patriotism is a sentiment that can be duplicated. The question of local autonomy in Canada has never in-

volved a thought of that question—of a local as against an Imperial national allegiance. Local control of legislation and administration was demanded, and was granted, on the ground of practical expediency alone. The Irish proposals of Mr. Gladstone, and the arguments used in their favour, have, for the first time, raised the broader issue. The decision of that case will form the first precedent; and as a precedent it must prove all-important in determining in which direction the current of Imperial policy is to be directed.

The Mayor of an Irish town has lately distinguished himself by declining to take part in the Jubilee services at Westminster, on the ground that the Royal Lady in whose honour he was invited was a 'foreign' Sovereign. By resolution of the Council the terms of the reply have been perpetuated upon the minutes of the

Δ *Nationalism, or Imperialism?*

57.06  
Corporation. (One would have thought that, even if they had forgotten their loyalty, the countrymen of Edmund Burke would have remembered something of their chivalry.) At the same time, the entry as it stands embodies a statement as contrary to legal fact as it is to good taste. We might hope for a day when that Limerick Dogberry, reflecting on the record, would wish within himself that he had not thus caused himself to be written down. To suppose that an established Constitution can be altered merely by denying its existence, surely is very like talking twaddle.

But the effect of carrying out Mr. Gladstone's scheme, according to the principles upon which it has been advocated, would be to reverse the existing conditions; it would immediately shift that *onus* which established Constitutional forms and education impose