

**IRISH INTELLECT: ITS GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.**

By D. EDGAR FLINN, V.D., F.R.C.S.

[*Read 16th April, 1920.*]

It is now thirty-one years ago—January, 1889—since I contributed a paper on “The Geographical Distribution of Irish Intellect,” which I read before the Statistical and Social Inquiry Society of Ireland. Dr. Grimshaw, the President, then Registrar-General for Ireland, was in the chair, which is now so well and worthily filled by his successor, the present Registrar-General. Since that time the world has undergone many changes, and Ireland has during that period contributed her quota (and that quite a large one) of names worthy to be inscribed on the world’s roll of fame. Ireland has during the period under review passed through many and varied vicissitudes, and has experienced anxious and exciting times.

The Boer War, the death of Queen Victoria, with which the Victorian era may be said to have concluded; the accession and, unfortunately, much too brief reign of King Edward, the great European war, the Dublin rising—are all remarkable milestones in the life and history of the last thirty years; and Ireland during that period has visibly made great progress.

It is nothing short of wonder, having regard to the educational disabilities and difficulties that so many Irishmen have been found able to take their place in the front ranks and walks of life. Time, that solvent of all things, as well as the historian of the future, will be better enabled to judge whether the youth of the country in former years were allowed to partake in full measure of the educational resources and benefits that were placed within easy reach. The educational gloom is now being gradually dispelled, however, and a brighter era, let us hope, is about to be inaugurated.

Many of us can remember when the advantage of university education was placed within the reach of all in provincial centres in Ireland. The establishment of the Queen’s University marked the introduction of a new and hopeful era, but interests were set in motion that prevented the majority of the youth of the country availing of its benefits. Had full advantage been taken of its establishment, there is no quarter of the Empire at home and abroad where the administrative influence and training of

the well-educated Irishman would not have exercised a beneficent effect—thus the development of Irish genius and intellect has had its drawbacks and education has not been as prolific and fruitful a plant as it should have been. There has, however, existed one outstanding exception—viz.: Trinity College, Dublin, which has lavishly contributed to the intellectual achievements of the world at large. Our most recent intellectual and educational institution, the National University, has yet to earn its laurels. Its predecessors, the Queen's and the Royal Universities, produced many brilliant workers, in every sphere of life.

Notwithstanding these disabilities, Irish genius has contributed not only to the intellectual wealth of Great Britain, but the continents of Canada, Australia, India and America have also been participators in the fame acquired by many Irishmen. During the latter part of the Victorian era an unusually large number acquired eminence in literature, divinity, art, medicine, law and music, and other intellectual walks of life, and the Irish roll of fame during this period can contrast favourably with that of the Sister Island.

In the great European War Irishmen distinguished themselves in many fields. The names of Beatty, French, Madden, Wilson, and de Robeck will be remembered by future generations as having upheld the credit and prestige of the Empire and their native land in a time of very great and unprecedented stress.

It is difficult when treating of a subject of this nature to estimate who shall be deemed worthy of being included in a list of those who have contributed to Ireland's roll of fame; and I have again undertaken the task of making an analysis in this direction with some degree of hesitation, thoroughly appreciating the difficulties that attach to it, and feeling that to draw a hard and fast line as to who might or who might not be considered to be a person of eminence would be arbitrary and presumptive.

Yet, taking such books of reference as *Men of the Time*, *Celebrities of the Century*, *The Compendium of Irish Biography*, *The Cabinet of Irish Literature*, *The Dictionary of National Biography*, *Lives of Distinguished Irishmen* and *men of the Reign*, as a guide as to who might be considered a person of eminence or of distinguished intellect, and adding the names of those who, although at the moment may not be adjudged worthy of a place in these works of reference, but are yet eminent and of considerable reputation, it will be seen that there is quite a large and distinguished record

of names to the credit of Ireland during the period under consideration—viz.: from the year 1800 to the present time.

Putting the total, then, of celebrities at about 300 and the population of Ireland, according to the Census of 1911, at 4,390,219, it would appear that one Irishman in every 14,000 rises to preferment and eminence in one or other of the walks of life.

The principal cities and counties that contribute to the Irish roll of fame are Dublin City and County with 89 celebrities; Belfast, including the counties of Antrim and Down, 40; City and County of Cork, 32; City and County of Limerick, 15. The City and County of Derry and Donegal have given us 16 celebrities; the City and County of Waterford, 8; the County of Tipperary, 9; and the County of Galway, 11. The County of Roscommon, 10.

In the four main divisions of Ireland we find the proportion of celebrities to the population to be as follows:

Province.	Population (Census, 1911).	Celebrities.	Proportion to Population.
Leinster ...	1,162,044	134	1 in 8,000
Ulster ...	1,581,696	70	1 in 22,000
Munster ...	1,035,495	80	1 in 12,000
Connaught	610,984	30	1 in 20,000

The three cities of Dublin, Belfast and Cork have produced about one-half of those who have attained distinction in the various pursuits of life; and, taking the population of these centres (including the Counties of Dublin, Antrim, Down and Cork) we arrive at an aggregate population of 1,654,414, which gives a percentage of one celebrity to 10,000 of the population in these three centres.

One matter that is apparent, and that will strike the observer, is the large number of prominent men and women who have been born in Dublin and south of the capital. If a line be drawn across the map of Ireland from Dublin to Galway it will be noticed that a large proportion of those who have achieved distinction were born on the southern side of that line of division. Again, if the map is bisected by a central line drawn from the north to the south of Ireland, it will be found that the greater number of those who have won their way to fame have been born to the eastward of that line, the intellectual standard seeming to be higher in the north-east, central-east, and south-east divisions of the country.

To see ourselves as others see us, and to hear expressions of opinion as to our national characteristics of manner and temperament, our good qualities as well as our short-

comings is both instructive and serviceable. The Dublin people nearly a century ago were credited with being "light and gay of heart, but bitter in hatred, with a welcoming smile for the stranger and pilgrim." A more recent criticism states that the Dubliner is of "pleasant manner, civil to everyone he meets, witty and obliging, and proud of the traditions of his city and its surroundings—a natural aristocrat." The same writer, speaking of Belfast, says that the people there are "manly and straightforward, but most unattractive and rude in manner, dogged in their views, but energetic and self-reliant; the one a professional city and the seat of government, the other an intensely commercial city."

Mr. John Morley (now Lord Morley) in his "Recollections," mentions that the Clareman was "dour, silent as wax, and not a hint to be squeezed out of him"; and his neighbour across the border, the Kerryman, was "open, gay, talkative and irrepensible"—two varying types of character, it will be noted.

Sydney Smith, writing about Ireland in 1820—just one hundred years ago—stated that "The Irishman has many very good qualities; he is brave, witty, generous, eloquent, hospitable and open-hearted, but he is vain, extravagant, and fond of display—light in council, deficient in perseverance, without skill in private or public economy; an enjoyer, not an acquirer, and always impatient of the restraints of law."

Education has, with other benign problems, exercised an influence which has very largely modified the negative phases of the Irish character, as depicted by Sydney Smith, whose sympathies were well-known to be with this country a century ago.

Dublin has contributed very largely to the muster-roll of Irish celebrities. The facilities for education, and the centralization of wealth and intellect at the capital, aiding very materially to this end. Cork has had also a very considerable share in adding to the aristocracy of native intellect, many of her children attaining eminence in art, music, poetry, and law. Belfast has also contributed some great names to the list of distinguished Irishmen in every sphere of life. It is worthy of note that the southern counties have produced the greatest number of eminent authors, poets, orators, and lawyers, while the northern and midland counties have been the birthplace of most of our distinguished statesmen, engineers, and a considerable sprinkling of notable members of the Bar. The Province of Leinster

has contributed a goodly array of eminent divines, doctors, scientists, authors, and dramatists; while Connaught, though much less prolific in her output than the other provinces, has furnished some well-known names amongst our judges, divines, and literary men, the blessings of education appearing to have been later availed of in the latter province than in the other parts of Ireland.

The capital, and the surrounding County of Dublin, seem to have been especially the home of intellectual Irishwomen; no other part of Ireland can point to such an array of female talent:—Lady Morgan, Mrs. Hall, Katherine Tynan Hinkson, The Hon. Mrs. Norton, Mrs. Anna Jameson, Mrs. Cashel Hoey, Mrs. Mary Tighe, Miss Laffan (Lady Hartley), Mrs. Frances Cobbe, Dora Sigerson, are well-known names. Belfast, and the County of Antrim, have produced Mrs. Riddell, Rosa Mulholland (Lady Gilbert); whilst Longford may justly claim Maria Edgeworth; and Tipperary County, the Countess of Blessington, Julia Kavanagh, and Ellen Tree, better known as Mrs. Charles Kean. Limerick claims Katherine Hayes (the leading cantatrice of her day) and Dorothy Conyers. Cork has the distinction of producing the first Irish lady medical practitioner in the person of Miss Kenealy; also Miss E. G. Somerville, the authoress, and Mrs. Thurston. To Wexford we are indebted for having given us Lady Wilde (Speranza); and to Donegal for the blind poetess Frances Brown, and Jane Porter. Meath lays claim to Mrs. Alice Stopford Green.

The Countess of Dufferin, afterwards Lady Gifford, though born out of Ireland, is intensely Irish in her writings, and deserving of mention. Like Maria Edgeworth, her life was closely connected with this country. As might be expected, Dublin takes the first rank in this analysis, the bright intellects (as is the case in all countries) being attracted towards the capital. Yet some of our most gifted brain-workers, men who completely overshadowed their fellow-countrymen, hail from the provinces, the counties of Cork, Carlow, Kerry, Down, Derry, Antrim, Tipperary, Limerick, Wicklow and Wexford furnishing a brilliant array of names—such as, for example, Tyndall, Cairns, O'Connell, Dufferin, Maclise, Whiteside, Parnell, Lord Russell of Killowen, Plunkett, Redmond, Napier, Butt and Roberts.

#### LEINSTER.

With the City and County of Dublin are associated many brilliant names—names that have shed lustre and brought credit to their country. Of the eighty-nine cele-

brities born in and about the capital, the complement is principally made up of men of science and literature, authors, divines, medical men, lawyers, poets, and musicians, prominent amongst them being Lecky, the historian, Lord Chancellor Ashbourne, Sir Dominic Corrigan, Lord Northcliffe, Dr. Petrie, antiquarian; Cardinal McCabe, Archbishop Trench, Dr. Russell, war correspondent of Crimean fame; Dr. Stokes, Archbishop Troy, Lord Mayo, Sir Henry Robinson, Charles Lever and Samuel Lover, novelists; Dr. Todd, Foley, the sculptor; Boucicault, the actor; Earl Iveagh, George Bernard Shaw, Sir Edward Carson, Dr. Sophie Bryant, Mrs. Clement Shorter, W. B. Yeats, Father Healy; and in the age gone by we had Edmund Burke, Canning, Henry Grattan, Sheridan, Lady Morgan, Balfe, the composer; Mrs. Hall, Sir Philip Crampton, Sir Martin Shee (President of the Royal Academy), Cusack and Richard Carmichael, surgeons; Peg Woffington, the actress; Jonathan Swift, the Right Hon. the O'Conor Don, M.P.

In the science and conduct of war Dublin has contributed some well known names—Field Marshal Viscount Wolseley, Lord Charles Beresford, Sir George Colley, General Stewart, being amongst the best known. In the world of literature and science, the muster roll contains names of great weight, viz.: Gilbert, Keightly, McCullagh, Torrens, Petrie, Todd, Salmon, John Kells Ingram, Sir Robert Kane, Sir Robert Ball, Sir W. Rowan Hamilton, Madden, W. J. Fitzpatrick, Sir Howard Grubb; whilst in fiction and journalism we have Lover, Sheridan, Lefanu, Mrs. Hall, Miss Laffan (Lady Hartley), Katherine Tynan, Lever, W. H. Russell, Dwyer Gray, William Bernard McCabe, Edmund O'Donovan, the war correspondent, Oscar Wilde.

In Poetry and Music the Capital has been particularly prolific, Moore heading the list, and following him Denis Florence McCarthy, Clarence Mangan, Honourable Mrs. Norton, Dalton Williams, and Alfred Graves; music being represented by Balfe, John Field, Sir John Stevenson, Glover, Sir Arthur Sullivan, Sir Robert Stewart, Dr. Robinson, Charles Villiers-Stanford, Plunket-Greene.

In Medicine and Law Dublin has some names of great repute—Corrigan, Stokes and Graves, a trio of bright intellects in their own walk of life; and Ashbourne, Fitzgerald, Ball, Fitzgibbon, Lord Rathmore (David Plunkett), adding lustre to the profession of the Bar. As artists we have Sir Thomas Jones, Nathaniel Hone, Alfred Grey, Walter

Osborne, and Sir William Orpen, whose war pictures attracted so much attention.

The County of Louth has a list of seven celebrities—Sir Leopold McClintock, of Arctic fame; Lord Carlingford, better known as Chichester Fortescue; Sir John McNeill, D'Arcy McGee, John Cashel Hoey, Lady Becher, Lord Ilkeston, better known as Sir Balthazar Walter Foster, a distinguished physician.

County Wexford, with a population of 102,273, has a short but distinguished list of children—Lady Wilde (Speranza), Dr. Doyle, an eminent Catholic divine; Harry Furniss, of "Punch" notoriety; John Redmond, Earl Beatty, and Sir Robert McClure, the Arctic explorer.

Wicklow has produced—Chief Justice Whiteside, Charles Stewart Parnell, and Abraham Brewster.

Of Meath there is little to be said, excepting for the fact that it claims to be the birthplace of the Duke of Wellington. Mrs. Alice Stopford Green, historian and author; Ledwich, the peasant poet; Martin Cregan, a former President of the Royal Hibernian Academy, and Sir Horace Plunkett were also all born in the County Meath.

Carlow, with a comparatively small population, can point to three eminent names, viz.: Professor Tyndall, F.R.S., a distinguished scientist; Cardinal Moran, and William Dargan, financier and of exhibition fame.

The County of Kildare has given a birthplace to General Sir Francis Napier, the Hon. Emily Lawless, Cardinal Cullen, and Mary Leadbeater.

Kilkenny has a strong muster roll of celebrities commencing with Charles Kendal Bushe, Dr. O'Donovan, Celtic Scholar, Henry Flood, Banim, the novelist and poet, Abraham Colles, the surgeon, William Gorman Wills, the dramatist, and Admiral Sir Charles Madden, of recent European War fame. Kilkenny is the third most populous county in the Province of Leinster, and has one celebrity to 9,000 of the population.

Westmeath has produced Macklin, the actor, and Dillon, the antiquarian, John McCormack, the singer, while Longford was the home of Maria Edgeworth, Oliver Goldsmith, and Field-Marshal Sir Henry Wilson, Chief of the Imperial General Staff in the late war, Joseph Sterling Coyne, the dramatic author, the Earl of Rosse, the designer of the giant telescope at Birr, and the Hon. C. W. Parsons, of turbine fame, were all natives of the King's County, whilst Keegan, the peasant poet, and Dr. Cahill, the divine, were born in the Queen's County.

## ULSTER.

Turning from the Province of Leinster to Ulster we meet with an imposing and distinguished array of names of persons who have brought the highest credit to their country in every walk of life and in every quarter of the globe. The northern province has been the pioneer of commercial enterprise in Ireland, and men pre-eminent in "the world's mart" have foregathered there to prove what can be achieved by Irish brains in the commercial pursuits of life.

The Northern province has undoubtedly forged ahead of the other three provinces in commercial enterprise—it has outdistanced the other provinces in its sustained efforts to increase the wealth and prosperity of its population. A visit to the North of Ireland will reveal the existence of a community largely and actively devoted to the pursuits of accessories, all helping to increase the output of the world's work; energy, thrift and perseverance are marked characteristics of the toilers and people in this section of the country.

The intellectual standard in the county of Antrim obtains a very prominent position, whether it be due to better educational facilities, or to the proverbial shrewdness and perseverance of the Belfast and Antrim people is a matter for conjecture, yet the names that go to make up the muster roll of the county are most of them eminent and well known. Amongst scientists and literateurs Lord Kelvin, Professor Andrews, Professor Hull, F.R.S., the geologist, Sir Joseph Larmor, of Cambridge University, Sir Samuel Ferguson, Mrs. Riddell, Rosa Mulholland (Lady Gilbert), Revd. Canon Hannay (George Birmingham), St. John Ervine, are all in honoured repute; in law Lord O'Hagan, Sir Joseph Napier, both former Lord Chancellors, and Lord Chief Justice May; in medicine Sir William MacCormack, Sir Alexander Armstrong, and Dr. Cuming.

The county of Antrim can claim two Field-Marshal's batons in the persons of Sir George White and Sir William Rowan. Sir John Lavery has brought fame to Belfast through his paintings—the remaining portion of the list is made up of Sir Emerson Tennent, diplomatist and colonial governor, Canon MacNeill (Canon of Chester), Smith, the naturalist, McDowell, the artist, Revd. Dr. Parker, and the Revd. S. Davidson, Presbyterian divines, Sir Robert Hart, diplomatist, and Dr. Anthony Traill, Sir Samuel Dill. Lord Pirrie, though not born in the county Antrim,



has been closely associated with the growth and progress of Belfast, and no doubt prides himself with being an active worker in its prosperity.

The county of Down can boast of a brilliant list of distinguished children, some of whom have brought world-wide fame to the county of their birth. In the forefront of the list is the Marquis of Dufferin, Governor-General of India and Canada, and Ambassador to Russia, Turkey, France and Italy at various periods. Lord Russell of Kilowen, Chief Justice of England, Earl Cairns, a former English Lord Chancellor, Sir David Harrel, Viscount Castlereagh, Captain Mayne Reid, the novelist, Sir Patrick Jennings, John Mitchell, Mr. Justice Monroe, Sir John Jordan, diplomatist, John Martin, and Lord Chancellor Law.

Londonderry has given us two prominent Indian Administrators, Lord Lawrence and Sir Robert Montgomery, and Dr. Alexander Archbishop of Armagh, John Hood, Leslie Porter divine, and the Rt. Hon. William Massey, Prime Minister of New Zealand.

Donegal produced Isaac Butt, K.C.; Cardinal Logue, William Allingham, the poet; Patrick McGill, the well-known war correspondent and writer; Rev. Stopford Brooke, Frank Hugh O'Donnell, Seamus MacManus, Michael MacDonough, poet; Jane Porter, authoress; General Montgomery, Frances Brown, the blind poetess, and Sir George Bowen, Colonial Governor.

The County of Tyrone claims the Duke of Abercorn, a former Lord Lieutenant; William Carleton, author and poet; the Rev. Fleming Stevenson; and James Shields, the American statesman; while to Monaghan is credited Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, Sir John Mahaffy, the late Provost of Trinity College; Professor Bury of Cambridge University, and Shane Leslie. The County of Cavan takes possession of Chief Baron Palles and Colonel Sanderson; and Fermanagh of William Conyngham Plunket, later Lord Plunket, Archbishop of Dublin; and Shaun Bullock, novelist; the County of Armagh being the birthplace of George Russell (Æ.) and Sir Robert Bredin, Chinese Diplomatist.

#### MUNSTER.

The Southern province has been the birthplace of many distinguished men who have brought great eclat and credit to Southern Ireland. The capital of the province, Cork, has shown great evidence of prosperity during the past quarter of a century, and a hive of industry has been gradually springing into existence which has proved of great

benefit to the South of Ireland. Men of the "world's mart" have proved their capacity in the city by the River Lee. The Cork people have been described as a "bright, intelligent and quick-witted community, prone to self-conceit, and positive in their opinions—but open-hearted and generous."

There is a large muster roll of celebrities to the credit of the County and City of Cork, foremost amongst them being John Philpot Curran and Baron Pigot, Lord Chancellors Sullivan and Redmond Barry. To the English Bar Cork gave Mr. Justice Mathew, Mr. Justice Willes, Mr. Justice Hill, Dr. Kenealy, K.C., and A. M. Sullivan. As artists, Daniel Maclise and Barry, both Royal Academicians, stood in the first rank of their profession. Amongst the authors and poets it produced a distinguished list—viz.: Sheridan Knowles, Justin MacCarthy, Edward Dowden, Francis Mahony (better known as Father Prout), Dr. Maginn, Miss Edith Æ. Somerville, Mrs. Thurston, T. D. Sullivan, Canon Sheehan, William O'Brien, John Francis Maguire, Francis Davis.

Cork lays further claim to Dr. Magee, Archbishop of York; Sir John Pope Hennessy, Sir Thomas Deane, Crofton Croker, Foli, the world-known singer; Sir John Madden, Colonial Chief Justice; General Collins, Thomas Osborne Davis, Callanan, Richard Alfred Millikin and O'Neill Daunt.

The County of Clare has been the birthplace of Eugene O'Curry, the Irish scholar; General Kelly-Kenny, Sir Ernest Shackleton, the Arctic explorer; William Smith O'Brien, Mulready, the artist and Royal Academician; Sir Colman O'Loughlan, Colonial Administrator; Tom Steele, The O'Gorman Mahon, Edward Lysaght, Richard Barry O'Brien, the author, and Lord O'Brien.

The County of Limerick more than holds its own in its production of eminent persons, and possesses a diversity of more or less distinguished names well sustaining the credit of the southern counties. It has given us two valiant soldiers, Viscount Gough and General Sir de Lacy Evans; Gerald Griffin, the poet and novelist; Aubrey de Vere, Dr Waller, Mr. Cecil Spring Rice, Sir Henry Blake, Colonial Governor; Lord Dunraven, Sir William Brooke O'Shaughnessy, Dr. Quain, the eminent London Physician; Chief Justice Lefroy, Lord Chancellor Naish, Lord Justice Barry, Professor Joyce, the late Lord Emly, Catherine Hayes, the singer; Sir Launcelot Kiggel, distinguished in the recent European war.

The County of Tipperary, the land of the Golden Vale, with a population of 152,433 according to the latest Census returns, furnishes some eminent names—General Sir William Butler, a brave soldier and prolific writer; Father Mathew, the great temperance orator; Sir John O'Shannassy, a brilliant Australian statesman; the Countess of Blessington and Julia Kavanagh, well-known writers in their time; Charles J. Kickham, author; Sir Michael O'Dwyer, a successful Indian Administrator; Dr. Tyrell, C. Litton Falkiner, and Lord Hemphill, a former Attorney-General.

Waterford County, with the smallest population of any county in Munster, according to the Census of 1911—viz., 83,966—has a brilliant record of names, the percentage of celebrities to the population being 1 in 10,000. The list contains the names of several who have upheld the credit of their country in various walks of life—Field-Marshal Lord Roberts, Richard Lalor Shiel, Wallace, the musical composer; Hogan, the sculptor; Charles Kean, the actor; Sir John Newport, a former Chancellor of the Exchequer; Carew, the sculptor; Thomas F. Meagher, and Thomas Sexton.

The County Kerry has a population of 159,691, according to the latest Census returns. It provides us with some distinguished names—Daniel O'Connell, Dr. Moriarty, the Catholic Bishop of Kerry, well known in his day; Mr. Hennessy, the Irish scholar; Lord Kitchener, Sir John Butcher, and the O'Donoghue of the Glens, a well-known figure in the House of Commons in the seventies.

#### CONNAUGHT.

Passing to the western counties, Galway has been the intellectual centre of Connaught, and has produced some eminently successful men in various lines of activities in life. The Queen's College can take credit for assisting materially in the establishment and the sustainment of this centre, notwithstanding the many difficulties with which it was confronted from its inauguration.

The County of Galway has produced some eminently distinguished men—Lord Morris, a law lord and former Lord Chief Justice; Chief Justice Monahan, Sir Thomas Redington, Sir William Gregory, Colonial Governor; Sir Henry Marsh, the physician; John Wilson Croker, Hardiman, the historian; Father Tom Burke, Martin Ross, General Sir Bryan Mahon, Kirwan, the eminent chemist; Martin Donohoe, war correspondent, and Lady Gregory.

The County of Roscommon takes rank next in precedence, and has a list of names of several who distinguished themselves in various careers—Sir William Wilde, the eminent oculist and antiquarian, and husband of Speranza, T. P. O'Connor, the father of the House of Commons; General Luke O'Connor, of Indian Mutiny fame; Sir David Barry, Mr. Justice Keogh, Colonel King-Harman, Sir Nicholas O'Connor, distinguished ambassador; General Sir Alfred Keogh. H. E. Field-Marshal Viscount French, though not born in the county, has intimate and close associations with it.

The County of Mayo has a short but brilliant list—Lord MacDonnell, Sir John Gray, Archbishop Machale, Michael Davitt, Sir Patrick Quinn, John Blake Dillon, George Moore, author; Louis Brennan, of torpedo invention fame.

The County of Sligo gives us General Sir John Bloomfield, Douglas Hyde, Mr. F. McDonough, an eminent Counsel in the last century; and Charles Anderson Read, author and journalist.

Ireland can point with satisfaction to the number of her children who have distinguished themselves abroad in high stations of life, and it must be freely conceded that Irishmen have contributed very much to the good government of many of the King's dominions, and have shown proof that they are most able administrators. In India, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, The Maritius, China, Newfoundland, the highest administrative posts have been held by Irishmen. Lord Dufferin, Lord Lansdowne, Lord Mayo, Viscount Monck, Sir William Gregory, Sir J. Pope Hennessy, Sir John O'Shannassy, Sir Charles Gavan Duffy, Sir Robert Hart, Sir Patrick Jennings, Lord Morris of Newfoundland, Lord Lawrence, Lord MacDonnell, Sir Michael O'Dwyer, Sir Denis Fitzpatrick, the Right Hon. William Massey, Sir Henry Blake, D'Arcy McGee—all of them held high and responsible office under the Crown.

And again, by no means an inconsiderable share of the military and naval reputation of Great Britain has been achieved by Irish soldiers and sailors—Earl Beatty, Viscount Wolseley, Viscount French, Earl Roberts, Lord Kitchener, Sir Leopold McClintock, Sir William Butler, Lord Charles Beresford, General Kelly-Kenny, Sir Henry Wilson, being the most recent additions to a long and distinguished list; in fact, in every age Ireland has contributed "hostages of fortune" in the shape of brave soldiers and sailors to the Crown.

Again, other countries are, in some measure, indebted to Irish intellect. America, Austria, France and Spain owe not a little to the wise counsels and administrations of Irishmen. In America, the names of Logan, Haviland, Hayes, Sheridan, McKinley, amongst others, are held in high repute; in France, M'Mahon and O'Connor; in Austria, Count Taaffe; in Spain, O'Donnell; and in the Argentine Republic, Admiral Brown—each and all of them attained the very highest positions; likewise, in the senate, Irishmen have been conspicuous and distinguished for their brilliancy and eloquence—the names of Edmond Burke, Charlemont, Ashbourne, Grattan, David Plunkett, Flood, Shiel, Curran, O'Connell, Cairns, Parnell, and Redmond, recalling scenes that have become memorable and historic.

In the domain of science, the names of Tyndall, Parsons, Lord Kelvin, better known as Sir William Thomson, have achieved a world-wide reputation. Of the four members of the medical profession who received Peerages during the past quarter century, Ireland lays claim to two—Lord Kelvin, born at Belfast; and Lord Ilkeston (Sir Walter Foster), born at Drogheda.

Ireland, though always a country largely devoted to agriculture, has made remarkable progress during the past three decades or more, and the binding element of co-operation in agricultural industry (which has been closely identified with the name of Sir Horace Plunkett) has not been without its advantages; this has been particularly the case in several of the Southern counties, notably Wexford county, where the agricultural brain has been active in the furtherance of many useful and successful industrial schemes.

The sustained development of the native agricultural industries and produce should naturally appeal to the intellect of the rural workers, having regard to the fact that at their very door lies their best and wealthiest customer, with its teeming population of nearly forty millions of people.

Taking a brief retrospect, it will be seen that the Province of Leinster outdistances the other provinces in its production of eminent persons. The towns, as a rule, have been more prolific in their output of celebrities than the rural districts, and it is remarkable that art, poetry, music and law seem to have attained to a higher state of development in the southern and eastern counties; whilst science and literature seem to have flourished in the midland and northern counties, theology and medicine apparently clustering around the educational centres.

The northern counties stand pre-eminently forward as being the home of those who have made a name in the "world's mart," Dublin and Cork ranking next in precedence.

Dublin, no doubt, owes in great part its pre-eminent position to the fact, that it is the best centre for education in Ireland, and that the facilities it affords for teaching and acquiring knowledge have no equal in this country. Moreover, geographically, and from the circumstances that the capital cities of every country attract the brightest intellects, it is not a matter for surprise that Dublin should have been the birthplace of so many distinguished men and women. Cork and Belfast have not until recent years been so freely blessed as Dublin in the question of educational advantages of the highest standard, though their individual muster rolls contain many brilliant names that have brought credit to their country. Limerick, Waterford and Galway have each a creditable record; and the little town of Bantry in the south, and Newry in the County of Down, have, in proportion to their population, quite excelled in the number of gifted men they have produced.

A writer in the "National Review" for February has had the temerity to suggest Ireland's incapacity to produce men of the highest genius, and claims that the large proportion of distinguished men who have been born in Ireland have been descendants of English and Scotch settlers. Now, families whose ancestors have resided in this country for four hundred years or more are assuredly part of the country's assets, and have invariably claimed Ireland as their native country. They have taken deep root, and have been aptly described as "*Hibernis ipsis Hiberniores.*"

The country that has given to the world the names of Kelvin, Tyndall, Lecky, Dufferin, Nicholas O'Connor, Roberts, Kitchener, Wolseley, Lawrence, O'Connell, Canning, Grattan, and a host of others, need have no fear of the criticisms of those whose knowledge and sentiments are so overborne with shallow prejudice, and the historian of the future will place in their due and proper perspective the names of French, Beatty, Wilson, Madden, Redmond, and Carson, as well as those scientists, artists, poets, and novelists (both men and women) who have in recent years appeared on the horizon of the ever-changing world's stage, and there can be little doubt that in a quarter of a century hence many will have appeared on that stage who are now in the infancy of their fame.