

THIS Ennis meeting is deserving of more than a passing notice, as it will doubtless be the keynote of future meetings, and Mr. Parnell's speech reveals to a great extent his policy and plans for the future. The meeting began with a speech from J. L. Finigan, M.P., who assured "Mr. Parnell that Ennis and Clare were ready again to do what their forefathers did before them—to stand by the old flag, fight by the old flag and fight for God and Irish liberty." Mr. Parnell next spoke, and after denouncing the Land Commission, saying that his views coincided in the main with Mr. Dillon's, continued:— Depend upon it that the measure of the Land Bill of next session will be the measure of your activity and energy this winter. (Cheers.) It will be the measure of your determination not to pay unjust rents; it will be the measure of your determination to keep a firm grip of your homesteads—(cheers);—it will be the measure of your determination not to bid for farms from which others had been evicted, and to use the strong force of public opinion to deter any unjust men among yourselves—and there are many such—from bidding for such farms. ("Hear, hear!") If you refuse to pay unjust rents: if you refuse to take farms from which others have been evicted, the land question must be settled, and settled in a way that will be satisfactory to you. It depends, therefore, upon yourselves, and not upon any Commission or any Government. When you have made this question ripe for settlement, then and not till, will it be settled. (Cheers.) It is very nearly ripe already in many parts of Ireland. It is ripe in Mayo, Galway, Roscommon, Sligo, and portions of this county. (Cheers.) But I regret to say that the tenant farmers of the county Clare have been backward in organization up to the present time. You must take and band yourselves together in land leagues. Every town and village must have its own branch. You must know the circumstances of the holdings and of the tenures of the district over which

time. You must take and band yourselves together in land leagues. Every town and village must have its own branch. You must know the circumstances of the holdings and of the tenures of the district over which the league has jurisdiction. You must see that the principles of the Land League are inculcated, and when you have done this in Clare, then Clare will take her rank with the active counties, and you will be included in the next Land Bill brought forward by the Government. (Cheers.) Now, what are you to do with a tenant who bids for a farm from which another tenant has been evicted? (Several voices, "Shoot him!") I think I heard somebody say shoot him. (Cheers.) I wish to point out to you a very much better way, a more Christian and charitable way, which will give the lost sinner an opportunity of repenting. (Laughter and "Hear, hear!") When a man takes a farm from which another has been evicted you must shun him on the roadside when you meet him; you must shun him in the streets of the town; you must shun him in the shop; you must shun him in the fair green, and in the market place, and even in the place of worship, by leaving him severely alone, by putting him into a moral convent, by isolating him from the rest of his country, as if he were a leper of old. You must show him your detestation of the crime he has committed. If you do this you may depend upon it that there will be no man so full of avarice, so lost to shame, as to dare the public opinion of all right thinking men in the country, and transgress your unwritten code of laws. (Loud cheers.) I would strongly recommend public men not to waste their breath too much in discussing how the land question is to be settled, but rather to help and encourage the people in making it, as I said just now, ripe for settlement. (Applause.) When it is ripe for settlement you will probably have your choice as to how it shall be settled, and I said a year ago that the land question would never be settled until the Irish landlords were just as anxious to have it settled as the Irish tenants. (Cheers.) (A voice: "They soon will be.") There are, indeed, so many ways in which it may be settled that it is almost superfluous to discuss them, but I stand here to-day to express my opinion that no settlement can be satisfactory or permanent which does not insure the uprooting of that system of landlordism, which has brought the country three times in a century to famine. (Cheers.) In my opinion the longer the landlords wait the worse the

ment. (Applause.) When it is ripe for settlement you will probably have your choice as to how it shall be settled, and I said a year ago that the land question would never be settled until the Irish landlords were just as anxious to have it settled as the Irish tenants. (Cheers.) (A voice: "They soon will be.") There are, indeed, so many ways in which it may be settled that it is almost superfluous to discuss them, but I stand here to-day to express my opinion that no settlement can be satisfactory or permanent which does not insure the uprooting of that system of landlordism which has brought the country three times in a century to famine. (Cheers.) In my opinion the longer the landlords wait the worse the settlement they will get. (Cheers.) Now is the time for them to settle, before the people learn the power of combination. We have been accused of preaching communistic doctrines when we told the people not to pay an unjust rent, and the following out of this advice in a few of the Irish counties has shown the English Government the necessity for a radical alteration in the land laws. But how would they like it if we told the people some day or other not to pay any rent until this question is settled? (Cheers.) We have not told them yet, and I hope it may never be necessary for us to speak in that way. ("Hear, hear!") I hope the question will be settled peaceably, friendly and justly to all parties. ("Hear, hear!") If it should not be settled we cannot continue to allow this millstone to hang round the neck of our country, throttling its industry and preventing progress. (Cheers.) It will be for the consideration of wiser heads than mine if the landlords continue obdurate and refuse all just concessions. We shall not be obliged to tell the people of Ireland to strike against rent until this question has been settled—(cheers)—and if the 500,000 tenant farmers of Ireland struck against the 10,000 landlords I should like to see where they would get police and soldiers enough to make them pay. (Loud cheers.)