The policy of the English government in regard to the Irish question has been, up to this time, a lenient one; and if we believe Sir William Harcourt's late speech, it will continue to be so till the end. Of course we on this side of the water, with our republican institutions, would naturally incline toward such a policy. It has, no doubt, many advantages; yet, like all else in this world, with its advantages come its disadvantages, the principal one of which is that there are times when it entirely fails to meet existing circumstances. Such a time seems to us to have arisen now in Ireland. Agrarian outrages are breaking out again with renewed vigor, and the no-rent manifesto seems to be taking a firm hold on the people, notwithstanding the liberal reductions made by the land court. In dealing with the Irish question, her Majesty's ministers should remember that the Irish peasantry are not a race of reasoning beings, but poor, ignorant, confiding children, more like our American Indians than anything else, only led by the priests and agitators instead of by "medicine men."

The disturbances that are going on at present can hardly be said to have been created by the people primarily, but by the agitators, and carried into effect by the peasantry. The sole aim of the leaders is, by their own acknowledgment, secession. England, however, has no more intention of submitting to the secession of Ireland now than the United States had of submitting to the secession of the Southern States twenty years ago. If this be the case, is the policy of the government a fit one? Some prominent leader of the Land League is arrested and lodged in Limerick jail. His private secretaries, however, have full access to him, and within a week he is released, only to make new inflammatory speeches and be again arrested. The Land Bill has, by this time, fully proven itself to be a failure, showing plainly enough that Home Rule is wanted, and not pure English justice. If this be truly the case, why waste time in useless half-way legislation?

Measures should be taken to suppress the thing once for all, and not let the farce repeat itself as often as it has done within the last hundred and fifty years.

As The Tech can be made of interest to the students only by the assistance of the students themselves, the editors desire to receive at any and all times contributions on subjects relating to the Institute, short items of interest, and especially articles descriptive of original investigation. Any really new jokes will be warmly welcomed.