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# RETURNS

OF

# SALES OF TENANT-RIGHT

IN

## AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS,

IRELAND.

#### DUBLIN:

WILLIAM MCGEE, 18 NASSAU STREET.

LONDON: KING AND SON, CANADA BUILDINGS, KING ST., WESTMINSTER.

1886.



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OF

# SALES OF TENANT-RIGHT

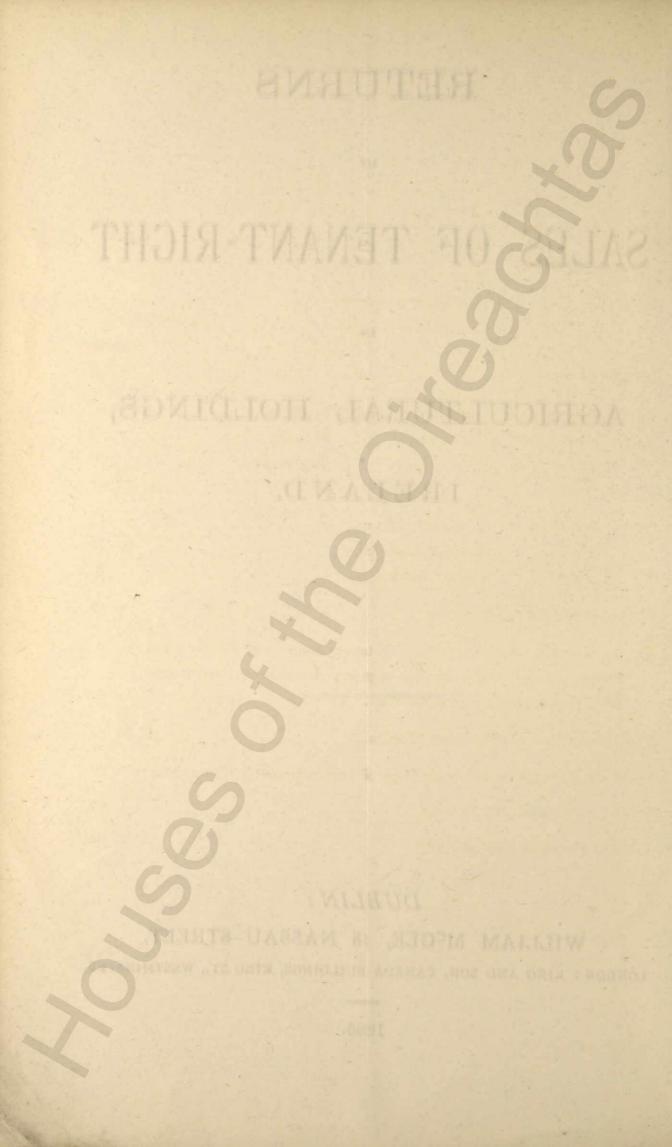
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#### INTRODUCTION.

At a time when the problem of "buying out the landlords" engages general attention, any reliable facts tending to elucidate the problem, by affording means, however indirect, of approximating toward the value of the property to be bought, will probably be considered not out of place.

With this object the following "Returns" of Sales of Tenant-Right are now published. They were obtained by the Executive Committee of the Landowners' and Encumbrancers' Association in the interval between the introduction of Mr. Trevelyan's Land Purchase Bill and Lord Ashbourne's Act.

Previous to the Land Act of 1881, Tenant-Right, or the right of a yearly tenant to sell his interest in his holding, existed in the Province of Ulster only, where it has come down from the time of the Plantation. The practice obtained universally in the north-eastern portions of the Province, where the Scotch element was strongest, and in a modified degree only in the western parts. The Tenants' interest, created by two centuries of Scottish thrift and industry, has now become a recognised and valuable possession, selling oftentimes for twenty years' purchase of the rent; in other words, it approximates towards the value of the Landlords' interest.

By the Act of 1881 a similar Tenant-Right has been suddenly created in the other three Provinces, where it never before existed; and the Returns now presented are authenticated Returns of Sales of Tenant-Right, both in Ulster and the other three provinces. They shew both the sums paid by the incoming Tenants for the Tenant-Right and the proportion to the former rents of the Future Payments voluntarily undertaken by these Tenants; such Future Payments consisting of the Rent plus the interest, at 5 per cent., of the Purchase-Money.

These Returns are derived from three sources:

First. From the Fourth Report of the Select Committee of the Lords on the working of the Land Act.

Second. From notes of Sales by Auction under the Court of Bankruptcy.

Third. From private sources in reply to Requisitions issued.

The Returns so obtained are, in all cases save two, authenticated by the name and address of the Landlord, Agent, or Auctioneer.

Copies of the Form of Requisitions issued, together with the Instructions for filling them, will be found at the end of this

pamphlet.

It will be observed that they refer to purely agricultural holdings, on which there were neither substantial buildings, nor improvements effected by the Tenant. None of the Returns received, coming within the above two requirements, have been suppressed. Abstracts of all are published.

The Returns themselves are too voluminous for publication. Abstracts only are published, in which each Return is represented by a single line of figures; and the Abstracts, again, are epitomized in a

short Summary (p. 17).

Two complete sets of copies of the Returns themselves have been made. One of these has been just sent to Mr. Gladstone; the other to the office of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union, 109 Grafton Street, Dublin.

The originals remain in the hands of the Hon. Sec. of the Association, where they may be consulted by any person showing reasons for disputing the accuracy of the copies furnished to the I. L. P. U.

It may here be stated that, after the Association had been a month engaged in collecting these Returns, it became impossible to obtain

further information from private sources.

This was attributed to the supposed fact, that when it became known that such Returns were being collected (upwards of 2000 forms were issued) purchasers feared that details of purchases might be published; and thenceforward stipulated for secrecy, being unwilling to incur the odium of keeping up the price of that which their neighbours were interested in depressing.

WENTWORTH ERCK, Hon. Sec.

SHANKILL, Co. DUBLIN, 16th March, 1886.

### PROVINCE OF LEINSTER-ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.

-	- William Tolling	TEN.	Babas Bla		mande of 8	eville all that		1
	COUNTY,	No.	Government Valuation.	Judicial Rent.	Former Rent.	Future Payment.	Purchase- Money of Tenant's Interest.	No. of Years' Purchase.
	Меатн	1 2 3 4	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 43 13 0 2 5 0 5 0 0 64 0 0	£ s. d. 68 13 0 2 19 0 13 10 0 77 15 0	£ 500 14 170 275	11 6 34 4
		5 6 7 8		nior I eva	33 16 0 13 0 0 14 5 0 60 0 0	54 6 0 24 11 0 16 11 0 102 0 0	410 231 51 810	12 18 4 13
	Westmeath	9 10 11 12	7 15 0 30 0 0 7 15 0	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	8 11 5 39 10 0 8 0 0	12 10 0 54 15 0 16 0 0 380 0 0	100 375 160 1400	13 10 24 5
	ned event need or the other to Graffon Blrow	13 14 15 16		E	5 8 0 42 9 3 22 0 0 13 18 0	6 4 0 60 9 3 38 0 0 23 18 0	16 360 320 200	3 8 14 14
	Longford	17 18 19 20 21 22 23	12 10 0 10 15 0 25 0 0 28 0 0 31 0 0	16 18 0 30 0 0 38 12 0	20 0 0 15 0 0 34 15 10 29 15 0 46 10 0 11 8 0 5 0 0	29 8 0 20 0 0 57 0 0 56 0 0 63 12 0 16 0 0 8 0 0	250 100 540 525 500 92 60	15 6 18 18 13 8 12
	LOUTH	24 25 26 27 28	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	15 17 4 6 10 0	31 10 0 15 7 4 33 17 0 7 3 4 4 1 5	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	245 190 335 280 60	8 13 10 44 15
	King's	29 30 31 32 33	14 15 0 10 10 0 13 5 0	15 16 3 18 6 3 129 10 0	9 13 0 24 0 0 30 12 0	32 12 0 21 4 0 39 16 0 57 15 6 151 0 0	336 231 430 555 430	21 23 23 18 3
	QUEEN'S	34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43		62 0 0 55 0 0 — — — — —	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	87 5 0 9 0 0 85 0 0 165 13 0 150 0 0 83 0 0 9 8 0 750 0 0 41 17 9 163 0 0	505 34 600 865 705 720 108 6050 382 1032	8 5 11 7 6 15 27 13 17 9
	KILKENNY	44 45 46 47 48 49		$\begin{bmatrix} -152 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & -2 \\ 32 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$	35 0 0 27 10 0 24 12 0 38 15 0 42 0 0	51 16 0 182 0 0 35 10 0 37 12 0 42 4 0 71 10 0	326 605 160 260 192 590	10 4 6 11 6 14

# PROVINCE OF LEINSTER-Continued.

COUNTY.	No.	Government Valuation.	Judicial Rent.	Former Rent.	Future Payment.	Purchase- Money of Tenant's Interest	No. of Years Purchase.
KILKENNY	50 51 52	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 0 15 2	£ s. d. 80 0 0 0 14 2 4 7 9	£ s. d. 100 0 0 1 10 0 5 0 0	£ 400 15 12	5 20 3
CARLOW	53 54 55	14 0 0 9 0 0	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	20 3 0 40 0 0 18 0 0	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	90 306 165	5 8 15
Wexford	56 57 58 59	0 1 II II 8	123 10 0 15 0 0	151 5 0 — 79 15 0 65 5 0	202 5 0 165 10 0 24 14 0 108 12 0 89 3 0	1020 840 194 577 478	7 7 13 7
AE 881 0 7 75 1001 0 0 82 585 0 21 12 165 6 5	60 61 62 63 64	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	8 0 0	4 3 0 12 0 0 33 0 0 22 10 0	5 8 0 13 0 0 48 0 0 29 12 0	25 101 300	6 13 9 6
KILDARE	65 66 67 68	0 0 001	41 10 6 19 1 8	57 10 0 3 8 0 —	65 0 0 5 18 0 60 15 0 33 16 0	49 385 295	3 14 9 15 18
61 000 10 0 61 000 10 0	69 70 71 72	62 10 0	45 19 4	3 8 9 67 0 0	88 4 0 4 9 0 111 15 0 30 0 0	21 985	6 15 7

# PROVINCE OF MUNSTER-ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.

	COUNTY.	No.	Government Valuation.	Judicial Rent.	Former Rent.	Future Payment,	Purchase- Money of Tenant's Interest.	No. of Years' Purchase.
一百多日 一下图一下 6日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日 日	DRK	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37	£ s. d. 6 15 0 23 10 0 8 15 0 20 10 0 7 15 0 5 10 0 5 10 0 2 12 0 22 0 0 5 7 6 9 15 0 7 5 0 14 10 0 24 0 0 16 10 0	_	31 0 0 34 9 8	£ s. d. 9 10 0 56 6 3 26 1 6 52 15 0 14 8 0 15 5 0 88 0 0 24 15 0 6 12 6 53 16 0 12 10 0 21 7 0 11 0 0 34 14 0 52 2 0 98 6 4 170 0 0 23 5 0  41 4 6 71 0 0 80 2 0 31 0 0 65 12 0 81 10 0 74 10 0 58 10 0 65 12 0 81 10 0 74 10 0 58 10 0 67 10 0 56 17 6 10 0 0 69 9 8 64 17 0 29 0 0 6 15 0	440 490 390 400 890 700 1065 360 900 337 810 21	22 18 44 13 21 41 12 18 26 18 18 15 17 19 22 14 8 19 16 16 13 8 13 13 13 14 12 8 13 14 15 16 16 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18
KE		42	0 10 0 6 15 0 4 10 0 11 15 0 49 10 0 19 5 0	13 10 0	6 0 0 0 15 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	95 18 0 20 10 0	180   2 115   2 160   1 525   1 220   1 90   50   3 25   1 130   3 358   90   6	4 3

## PROVINCE OF MUNSTER-Continued.

COUNTY.	No.	Government Valuation.	Judicial Rent.	Former Rent.	Future Payment.	Purchase- Money of Tenant's Interest.	No. of Years' Purchase.
Kerry	51 52 53 54 55	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 40 0 0 100 0 0 50 0 0 12 10 0 30 0 0	£ s. d. 59 8 0 140 0 0 70 0 0 17 10 0 46 0 0	£ 388 810 400 112 330	10 8 8 9 11
	56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	3 5 0 6 0 0 1 10 0 5 0 0 1 2 6 3 5 0	7 8 0 15 0 0 4 12 6 7 2 0 1 13 6 6 14 0 1 12 0 4 10 0 1 10 6	12 10 0 28 10 0 9 0 0 12 0 0 2 14 0 11 5 0 2 15 0 8 10 0 7 4 0 3 14 0 4 14 0	103 270 114 120 24 125 32 114 54 44	14 18 35 20 16 25 28 35 12 29 21
	66 67 68 69 70	2 0 0 2 0 0 — 19 10 0	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	2 6 0 4 2 6 18 10 0 5 0 0 27 16 0	6 6 6 22 1 0 12 1 0 45 0 0	45 145 141 300	11 10 28 10
Limerick	71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84	40 5 0	55 0 0 - 45 0 0 - - - - - -	72 0 0 156 0 0 	117 13 0 201 0 0 69 0 0 165 0 0 23 5 0 75 0 0 139 0 0 154 1 2 311 17 6 62 12 6 75 7 2 251 17 9 115 10 0 185 0 0	913 900 290 900 165 600 700 1200 2010 400 500 1500 870 1100	13 6 5 7 11 13 7 13 10 10 10 8 12 8
WATERFORD	85 86 87 88 89	180 10 0	210 0 0	120 0 0 11 1 0 117 13 0 243 19 0 260 8 0	149 10 0 17 13 0 135 0 0 291 0 0 310 0 0	590 132 350 940 1000	5 12 3 4 5
TIPPERARY	90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98	30 0 0 7 0 0 20 0 0 47 5 0	=	57 11 0 - 30 0 0	173 15 0 266 0 0 82 11 0 176 0 0 61 10 0 18 10 0 35 10 0 212 0 0 71 0 0	975 1120 500 1180 630 220 310 1100 420	8 5 9 10 21 29 23 7 8

### PROVINCE OF CONNAUGHT-ABSTRACT OF RETURNS.

COUNTY.   No.   Government Valuation.   Judicial Rent.   Former Rent.   Future Payment.   State of the valuation.   Stat								
MAYO	COUNTY.	No.	Goyernment Valuation.	Judicial Rent.	Former Rent.		Purchase- Money of Tenant's Interest.	No. of Years' Purchase.
ROSCOMMON 21	MAYO	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19	MILITERATION		2 13 2 2 15 4 10 0 0 2 0 6 3 11 6 2 5 0 4 8 0 1 7 0 5 6 0 9 9 0 18 0 0 4 0 0 1 0 0 4 8 0 4 19 0 4 8 0 5 0 0 1 18 0 6 1 0	4 9 2 4 0 4 16 0 0 2 10 6 5 0 0 2 16 0 5 7 0 1 17 0 7 10 0 12 9 0 24 10 0 5 4 0 1 10 0 5 8 0 7 9 0 6 18 0 5 16 0 3 8 0 9 6 0	36 25 120 10 27 11 19 10 44 60 130 24 10 20 50 50 16 30 65	9 12 5 8 5 4 7 8 6 7 6 10 11 3 16 11
GALWAY 27 5 15 0 6 6 4 7 9 8 9 16 4 70 11 13   LEITRIM 29 - 8 0 0 13 10 0 110 14   30 - 30 - 31 - 33 4 6 2 4 59 18	Roscommon	22 23 24	OX		21 0 0 8 10 8 1 12 0	42 0 0 13 10 8 2 12 0	410 100 20	19 12 13
LEITRIM  28 7 5 0 7 14 6 10 2 0 12 14 6 100 13  - 8 0 0 13 10 0 110 14  3 3 4 6 2 4 59 18	SLIGO	26	1 8 <u>-</u> 1 1	-	285 0 0	342 0 0	1150	4
$\begin{vmatrix} 30 \\ 21 \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} - \\ 3 & 3 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} 6 & 2 & 4 \\ 59 & 18 \end{vmatrix}$		28						
	LEITRIM	30	=	Ξ	8 0 0 3 3 4 26 2 0	6 2 4	59	18

### PROVINCE OF ULSTER-ABSTRACT OF RETURNS

COUNTY.		No.	Government Valuation.	Judicial Rent.	Former Rent.	Future Payment.	Purchase- Money of Tenant's Interest.	No. of Years' Purchase,
Armagh		1 2 3 4 5	£ s. d. 	£ s. d.  - 7 12 6 21 0 0 14 0 0	£ s. d. 42 4 10 12 0 0 -9 2 8 30 6 2 17 1 0	£ s. d. 79 14 0 27 0 0 19 6 0 37 16 0 33 0 0	£ 750 300 233 336 380	18 25 30 16 27
Antrim		6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	14 5 0 8 15 0	- - - - - - - - - - - 7 10 0	11 16 9 2 10 0 5 16 0 4 2 6 12 7 0 26 2 0 10 0 0 13 10 0 8 15 3 15 0 0 10 0 0 292 0 0	25 6 0 7 18 0 8 11 0 13 10 0 26 16 0 48 12 0 28 18 0 19 0 0 18 15 0 26 15 0 16 10 0 504 0 0	270 108 55 188 289 450 236 110 200 275 180 4250	23 43 9 45 23 17 23 8 23 21 24 14
Donegal		18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30		30 0 0	39 18 6 45 0 0 9 0 0 7 0 0 41 7 6 4 16 0 18 0 0 4 0 0 8 17 8 1 2 6 0 17 0 1 11 0	64 18 0 95 0 0 19 5 0 13 7 0 113 0 0 9 6 0 45 10 0 12 15 0 19 18 0 4 2 6 6 6 6 3 4 0 5 12 0	500 1000 205 137 1750 90 550 175 209 60 104 43 81	12 22 23 20 58 19 30 44 23 53 92 51 53
FERMANAGH		31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43	49 15 0 7 15 0 20 15 0 9 5 0 8 15 0 14 0 0 75 0 0 37 5 0	5 1 4 13 9 0 9 0 0 9 0 0 16 0 0 80 0 0	6 6 8 16 16 0 10 8 0 9 18 0 17 10 0 115 0 0	44 10 0 19 5 0 9 16 0 8 0 0 12 4 0 54 0 0 12 6 0 28 9 0 13 11 0 13 0 0 26 10 0 110 0 0 44 15 0	330 100 36 40 65 320 145 300 90 80 210 600 500	12 7 4 7 7 8 29 23 10 9 13 7
Down	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	. 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51	-		19 10 0 3 8 0 22 0 0 8 14 10 8 14 10 11 12 0 5 9 0 5 9 0	12 3 0	105 365 180 130 240 134	14 30 17 20 15 21 25 29

## PROVINCE OF ULSTER-Continued.

COU	NTY,	No.	Government Valuation.	Judicial Rent,	Former Rent.	Future Payment.	Purchase- Money of Tenant's Interest,	No. of Years' Purchase.
Down		52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d. 62 12 0 25 14 8 19 10 0 63 4 5 6 0 0 40 0 0 84 0 0 7 10 0 89 4 0 25 0 0 89 4 0 4 0 0 45 0 0 6 15 0 22 15 0 14 0 0	£ s. d. 135 12 0 44 14 8 35 15 0 173 4 5 13 0 0 76 0 0 119 0 5 10 0 0 120 9 0 48 0 0 120 9 0 48 0 0 120 9 0 10 11 0 91 15 0 95 10 0 77 15 0 92 6 0	£ 1460 380 325 1200 140 720 705 50 655 460 625 82 1035 375 1100 165	23 15 17 19 23 18 8 7 7 18 7 20 26 56 48 15
Monag	HAN	68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77	10 10 0 10 10 0 6 10 0 — — — — — — — — —	7 0 0	12	21 13 2 17 13 0 13 10 0 16 2 0 7 7 0 88 12 0 15 13 0 13 1 0 26 15 0 12 15 0	190 110 130 150 75 972 80 96 175 115	16 9 19 17 21 24 7 12 10 16
CAVAN		78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87	21 10 0 13 5 0 30 0 0 19 15 0 18 10 0 3 9 6 7 0 0	33 10 0 15 0 0 — — — — — —	61 13 0 20 15 0 17 4 4 29 15 0 21 7 4 21 5 8 4 1 3 8 19 8 10 5 6 8 7 6	90 18 0 46 15 0 23 10 0 64 16 0 39 7 0 48 15 8 9 16 0 17 15 8 20 5 6 10 17 6	585 520 170 699 360 550 115 176 200 50	9 25 11 23 17 26 28 20 20 6
TYRONE	0	88 89 90	6 0 0	-	$\begin{array}{cccc} 12 & 0 & 0 \\ 38 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$	16 5 0 51 5 0 14 12 0	85 265 192	7 7 38
LONDON		91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102	12 0 0 65 0 0	13 0 0 70 0 0	16 0 0 27 18 8 90 0 0 7 0 0 12 0 0 3 0 0 2 0 0 10 16 0 17 15 0 13 0 0 27 8 0 70 0 0	32 0 0 47 18 8 184 13 0 12 0 0 32 15 0 5 0 0 7 6 0 20 16 0 27 15 0 25 10 0 47 8 0 111 0 0	320 400 1893 100 415 40 106 200 200 250 400 820	20 14 21 14 34 13 53 18 11 19 15 12

#### NOTE.

In all the Abstracts, the number of years' Purchase is that of the Judicial Rents, where these are given.

#### OBSERVATIONS ON THE LEINSTER ABSTRACT.

- No. 9.—13 per cent. reduction. Interest sold for 13 years' purchase. Future payment, 1.7 times the rent. Tenant could not pay his rent, "the farm being too dear." Mud cabin only.
- No. 11.—16 per cent. reduction: sold at 24 years' purchase. Future payment, 2.5 times the rent.
- No. 27.—10 per cent. reduction: sold at 43 years' purchase. Future payment, 3.1 times the rent. Purchaser, a neighbouring farmer. Buildings valued at 10s.
- No. 29.—Interest sold at 21 years' purchase. Future payment, 2·1 times the rent.
- No. 30.—Interest sold at 23 years' purchase. Future payment, 2.2 times the rent. "Land much run out. Small buildings very dilapidated."
- No. 31.—25 per cent. reduction. Tenant readmitted after ejectment for non-payment, and permitted to sell his interest by auction, when it fetched 24 years' purchase. Future payment, 2:1 times the rent. All the Tenants on this property refused to pay without abatements.
- No. 55.—40 per cent. reduction: sold at 16 years' purchase. No buildings save a caretaker's thatched cabin. Purchaser, a neighbouring farmer.
- No. 62.—33 per cent. reduction: sold at 13 years' purchase. No buildings.
- No. 69.—Interest sold at 18 years' purchase. Future payment, 1.9 times that rent.

### OBSERVATIONS ON THE MUNSTER ABSTRACT.

Nos. 1 to 18, Co. of Clare.—The amount of Rent formerly paid by these Tenants was £405. The amount of Future Payments, self-imposed, by the Purchasers of these interests is £630, or 1.75 times the former rent. The Purchase-money paid was £5,985, or, on an average, 15 times the former rent. This amount represents capital transferred to the Tenant from the Landlord, whose Rental also has been reduced, probably some 15 per cent.

No. 19.—Future Payment, self-imposed, 1.8 times the former rent: 16 years' purchase.

No. 20, Co. Cork.—Future Payment, 1.7 times the former rent. This Tenant got money under the Arrears Act, when he swore that his Interest was nil; yet he afterwards sold his Interest, at 16 years' purchase, to a neighbouring farmer, on the same estate, who had no means of making money save his farm, held at a similar rent, which had been reduced 20 per cent.

- No. 21.—Purchaser, a neighbouring farmer, whose sole means of living was his own farm, held at a similar rent. His future payments will be 1.6 times the former rent.
- No. 22.—Purchaser, a neighbouring farmer, paid £17 rent for his own farm, which he had sublet for value equivalent to £54 a-year, or three times the rent; yet, at date of this Return, he was about applying to the Court for the usual reduction of 15 per cent. on his own rent of £17.
- No. 23.—The rental of this estate, in 1881, was £5,000, the same as in 1841, though, in the interval, the Landlord had expended £20,000 in substantial improvements. The whole of this sum, together with 15 per cent. of the rental, has been transferred, by the Act of 1881, from the Landlord to the Tenant.
- No. 24.—Purchaser, paying in future 1.6 times the former rent, was a shopkeeper in the nearest village.
- No. 25.—This Tenant had been evicted for non-payment, but was afterwards allowed to sell his (imaginary) interest, which fetched 9 years' purchase, the purchaser paying 1.5 times the former rent.

- No. 29.—The Purchaser, at 38 years' purchase, on the former rent, was an adjoining farmer: in future he will have to pay three times that rent. There is nothing but an old house on the land; no offices whatever.
- Nos. 33.—26 years' purchase: future payments double the former rent. No substantial buildings; no improvements.
  - No. 39.—Reduction, 18 per cent.; 27 years' purchase; future payment, 2.3 times the rent.
  - No. 58, Co. Kerry.—Judicial reduction of 30 per cent.; yet the Interest sold for 25 years' purchase of the Judicial Rent.
  - No. 59.—Reduction, 16 per cent.; Interest sold for 20 years' purchase.
  - No. 61.—Reduction, 25 per cent.; Interest sold for 25 years' purchase. Future payment, 2:3 times the rent.
  - No. 68.—Reduction, 30 per cent.; Landlord appealing, Tenant accepted reduction of 15 per cent., and sold his Interest for 10 years' purchase.
  - No. 80.—Interest sold at 10 times the former Rent. "Wretched hut; land very cold and spewey; full of rushes." Future payment, 1.5 times the rent.
  - No. 79.—Landlord reduced a rent of £211 by £38 per annum, when Tenant sold his Interest for £2,010: no house.
  - No. 94.—Interest sold at 21 years' purchase; future payment, double the former rent.
  - No. 95.—Judicial reduction of 25 per cent.; yet the Interest sold for 21 years' purchase; future payment, 1.8 times the original rent; there are no substantial buildings or improvements; purchaser had no means of making money save out of a farm, the rent of which had been reduced.

#### OBSERVATIONS ON THE ULSTER ABSTRACT.

The following Table shows at a glance some curious results arising from the combined action of the Land Act of 1881 and the Ulster Custom:—

	Abstract No.	Judicial Reduction.	Years, Purchase.	Future Payment,	0
	3	15	30	2.5	
	4	32	16	1.8	EXAMPLE.
	5	18	27	2.4	No. 5 had 3½ years' arrears wiped off
	15	14	21	2.0	under the Arrears Act. He then went into Court, and, on the ground of his
13	16	25	24	2.2	rent being too high, got a Judicial
	22	28	58	3.7	Reduction of 18 per cent. Finally he sold his interest in the holding for 23
	37	20	29	2.4	years' purchase of the Judicial Rent,
	38	20	23	2.1	the Purchaser paying 1.9 times the former rent.
	43	27	17	1.5	No. 22.—An House in this case.
1	64	11	26	2.3	
	70	24	19	2.0	airc and aring A

#### NOTE.

The last column shows the proportion of the Future Payment to the Rent.

Out of 100 Sales returned in this Abstract-

46	were over	20	years'	purchase
13	,,	30		"
10	,,	40		,,
6	,,	50		"

Throughout these Returns, the Future Payment consists of the former rent, plus interest at 5 per cent.; but, in some of the Ulster Returns, it is stated that the Purchase-Money was borrowed at 8 per cent.

In such cases the incoming Tenant must be saddled with an annual payment at least equivalent to three times the former rent.

This is the custom which has now been introduced into the three other Provinces.

### SUMMARY OF ABSTRACTS.

S	PROVINCE.	No. of Returns	Counties.		Former Rents.	Future Payments.	Purchase- Money.	No. of Years.
Toughord	1	8	Meath		£235	£370	£2,460	10.5
Column   C	1			***				4.8
Fig.	12030	1	Longford					
Total	1 03	The state of the s						
Total	国							
Total	H							
Total	Z			***				100000000000000000000000000000000000000
Total	E			•••		1000000		
T2	F							
18		8	Kildare	•••	200	400	2,890	10.9
The state of the		72	LEINSTER		£3,410	£4,939	£30,456	9.0
The state of the		18	Clare		£404	£690	£5,985	14.8
98   Munster   £4,659   £6,714   £44,533   9·5	R.			770				
98   Munster   £4,659   £6,714   £44,533   9·5	国	33	Kerry		627	890		9.6
98   Munster   £4,659   £6,714   £44,533   9·5	LS	14	Limerick	***				
98   Munster   £4,659   £6,714   £44,533   9·5	Z	100						
98   Munster   £4,659   £6,714   £44,533   9·5	UV	9	Tipperary	***	770	1,098	6,465	8.4
Roscommon   Sligo   Galway   Leitrim   Sligo   Galway   Leitrim   Sligo   Galway   Sligo   S	A	98	Munster		£4,659	£6,714	£44,533	9.5
Samagh   S	H	20	Mayo	9	£95	£131	£808	8.8
Samagh   S	H	- (						
Samagh   S	JG	11)	Sligo (	***	491	522	2 680	6.4
Samagh   S	AT	- 11)		***	121	000	2,000	0 1
Samagh   S	Z	(	Leitrim )					
12	CON	33	CONNAUGHT		£516	£664	£3,488	6.7
12		5	Armach		£111	£914	£2 000	18:0
13	11		4.0					
Harmonian   Harm	31 19 14			3 9 1				
H	رد			CHARLET !				
12   Londonderry     300   555   3,945   13·1	E							
12   Londonderry     300   555   3,945   13·1	H							
12   Londonderry     300   555   3,945   13·1	00		Cavan				3,425	16.7
To   Ulster   £2,418   £4,295   £37,427   15.4	5	3						
72 Leinster £3,410 £4,939 £30,446 9.0 98 Munster 4,659 6,692 44,533 9.5 Connaught 516 664 3,488 6.7  L. M. & C £8,585 £12,317 £78,467 9.1 Ulster 2,418 4,295 37,427 15.4	100	12	Londonderry	•••	300	555	3,945	13.1
98 MUNSTER 4,659 6,692 44,533 9.5 6.7  L. M. & C £8,585 £12,317 £78,467 9.1 15.4		102	ULSTER		£2,418	£4,295	£37,427	15.4
98 MUNSTER 4,659 6,692 44,533 9.5 6.7  L. M. & C £8,585 £12,317 £78,467 9.1 15.4		72	LEINSTER		£3,410	£4,939	£30,446	9.0
33   CONNAUGHT	1							
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	A	1	TMEC		£0 K0 K	£19 917	£78 A67	0.1
	EI	109						The Country of the Co
	H	102	ULSIER	***	2,110	1,200		104
		305	IRELAND		£11,003	£16,612	£115,894	Bit is

#### TABLES A AND B,

Showing the value of the Tenant-Right, and the amount of Future Payments, in terms of the Former Rent, and in terms of the Judicial Rent:—

1-80E 1-06KB 1		Α,		deret .	В.	
PROVINCE.	Former Rent.	Future Payment.	No. of Years' Purchase.	Judicial Rent.	Future Payment.	No. of Years' Purchase.
Leinster	. 100	1.45	9.0	100	1.81	11.2
Munster	. 100	1.44	9.5	100	1.80	11.9
CONNAUGHT	. 100	1.29	6.7	100	1.61	8.5
ULSTER	. 100	1.78	15.4	100	2.22	19.5

#### NOTE.

Table B is calculated from Table A, assuming the Judicial Rent to be, on the average, 20 per cent. under the Former Rent. The Returns did not contain a sufficient number of Judicial Rents to enable the Table to be constructed directly from them.

The averages, in Table A, are the Quotients resulting from division of the Total Purchase-Money, and of the Total Future Payments, by the Total of Former Rents, as given in the Summary.

### CONCLUSIONS AND INFERENCES FROM TABLES A AND B.

First—That former rents, prior to the Act of 1881, were moderate in amount; and the Judicial Rents, by which other rents are now estimated, are low rents.

Second—The resulting value of the Tenant-Right as shewn by actual sales; and the consequent value of the property transferred from Landlord to Tenant in Leinster, Munster, and Connaught.

Third—An approximate valuation of the Landlord's interest, inferred from that of the Tenant, with a view to the possible purchase of the Landlord's interest by the State; or, as a security for advances by the State.

That the former rents were moderate is proved by two facts: one, that the very most competent judges of value, viz., the neighbouring Tenants, did themselves actually pay one-half more than the former rents, and three-quarters more than the Judicial Rents, in order to obtain possession of farms held at these rents respectively.

The other fact is: that not only did these Tenants give for the Tenant-Right of such farms sums amounting to eleven-and-a-half times the Judicial Rent, but they had themselves made this money out of farms held at the former rents.

Whence it is clear both that the former rents must have been moderate, and the Judicial Rents low rents.

This value of the Tenant-Right, that is to say,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  years' purchase of the Judicial Rent in Leinster and Munster, and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  years' in Connaught, is also the measure of the value of the property transferred from the Landlord to the Tenant in these three provinces, where Tenant-Right did not exist prior to the Act of 1881. For it must be remembered that these returns refer exclusively to Holdings on which there were no substantial Tenant's improvements.

In considering any scheme of compulsory purchase of the Landlord's interest by the State, it is clear that, as between the State and the owner, the valuation cannot be made at the present time when, through the inability of the Government to perform its primary duty of maintaining Law and Order, Landed Property is utterly unsaleable. Unless a gigantic scheme of thinly-veiled plunder be contemplated, the valuation must be referred back to some period of comparative tranquillity, and then reduced by a percentage representing the depreciation in prices that has since taken place.

Such a valuation was made, in 1871, by the Treasury, for the purpose of regulating the amount of Loans by the Board of Works; and the number of years' purchase of the Government Valuation was fixed at 30. See Report of Mr. Shaw Lefevre's Select Committee on the Irish Land Act, which sat in 1878. Answer to Question 1732.

Now 30 years' purchase of the valuation would be 28 years' purchase of the Judicial Rental.

Some compensation is due for the value of the Tenant-Right, carved out of the Landlord's Estates, and transferred, by the Act of 1881, to the Tenants: the value, we know by the preceding Tables, to be in Leinster and Munster, 11.5 times the Judicial Rent. At the time the Act was introduced, it was contended that the Landlord's interest would not be depreciated, for this reason, that the increased security of the Judicial Rent would compensate by a greater number of years' purchase for the diminished Rental. Be it so: then let the Judicial Rents be purchased at 25 years' purchase as being well-secured Rents, leaving, by the Tenant's own estimate, a margin of profit equal to 0.80, or four-fifths, of the Rent.

Or else, let the Judicial Rents be purchased as precarious rents, at 18 or 20 years' purchase; but, in this case, as the Act has failed in its intention, let the value of the Tenant-right, or a moiety of it to allow for depreciation, be restored to the Landlord, thus bringing the Purchase, plus Restitution, money up to the same amount, viz., 25 years' purchase.

Again, 25 years' purchase of Judicial Rents is little more than 20 years' purchase of the former rents, which have been proved to be moderate till recently; and against depreciation may be put the heavy

loss inflicted on Landlords during the last five years, in consequence of the inability of the Government to maintain peace in the country.

This is also about the number of years' purchase which, under the provisions of Lord Ashbourne's Act, Tenants can afford to give without an increase of their present rent; and there can be little doubt that, as soon as Law and Order are restored, and payment of rents enforced, those Tenants who paid 11½ years' purchase, in cash, for the Tenant-Right of their holdings will be only too happy to be able to acquire the Fee by the mere payment of instalments equal to their rent, without any payment of cash whatsoever.

Twenty-five years' purchase, representing 4 per cent., or the approximate value of money on permanent security, would be received by owners and incumbrancers as a fair settlement of their claims; and would go far to restore that confidence, now rudely shaken, in engagements entered into by the State; which confidence must of necessity be restored before Tenants will contract for purchase of their Holdings.

Whatever figures are available for the scheme of "buying out the landlords" are also available for the more modest scheme, elsewhere proposed, of inducing Tenants to purchase, under the provisions of Lord Ashbourne's Act, by the mere enforcement of Law and Order for some years; and, in the meantime, making advances to Landlords, as well as to Tenants, on the security of Rentals shown to leave a large margin of profit to the latter; thus affording time for the desired change to be effected by natural causes, rather than by Act of Parliament.

The position of the Landlords, with respect to any Purchase, or other scheme, is clear and well defined.

They say, We ask no favours; we only claim the rights of citizens who have observed the laws, and paid their taxes. We require one of two things: either payment of those Rents which the State itself has fixed as "Fair Rents;" or else, the quiet and peaceable possession of our lands.

If the State is unable, or unwilling, to give us either; then, we are willing to accept any fair and reasonable equivalent.

What we object to is, that the State should avail itself of its wrongdoing, by the permission of anarchy, in order to depreciate our property. The following Instructions for filling the Returns were issued, along with the following Forms, on 21st May, 1884:—

The object of the enclosed Returns is to show-

1st—That the present Judicial Rents are far below the true value.

2nd—The capital value of the Interest now being transferred from the Landlord to the Tenant.

3rd—The unsatisfactory condition of the new Purchasers as regards outgoings.

Purely Agricultural Holdings, on which there are neither substantial buildings nor improvements, are alone to be returned; and that the Holdings are such should be stated under "Remarks," lest it should be said the Purchase-money was paid for the improvements. Each Return must be endorsed with the name and address of the person making it.

Form of Requisition issued and signed by the Person making the Return.

No.

d. S. Landlord Tenant Locality Tenure and Contents Former Rent Valuation ... Judicial Rent Tenant-right sold for years' purchase Purchase-money Purchaser ... Rent and Interest payable Purchaser, by "Future Payment"

REMARKS.

#### ON THE PRESENT AGRICULTURAL DEPRESSION.

There is no doubt that there has been a great fall in prices since 1878: and agriculturists, having regulated their mode of living and social requirements by that prosperous period, now feel acutely the necessities of reduced expenditure and increased industry.

But the question with which we are concerned is the relation of rent to produce, I mean the value of produce, at the present and in former times, say in 1852, the date of Sir Richard Griffith's valuation, commonly known as the Government valuation. For this purpose let us compare the present Judicial Rents with the rents then prevailing, using as a means of comparison the Government valuation which has remained constant during the interval.

The average of all Judicial Rents fixed up to 31st December, 1885, is 7 per cent. above the valuation; and we have the authority of Sir Richard Griffith for stating that the rents prevailing in 1852 were justly fixed at 33 per cent. above the valuation.

Therefore we have a reduction of rent during the interval of 26 per cent.

Now let us consider relative prices in 1852 and 1885. The accompanying Table shows the average mean value of 16 principal articles of produce at these two periods. The first eight articles form the basis of the Government valuation; but in order to get a wider basis the number of articles has been doubled.

The result is an increase of 50 per cent.; so that in the interval the price of produce has increased 50 per cent., while rents have been reduced 25 per cent. These two facts are indisputable.

Compare the condition of a farmer paying £100 a-year in 1852 with the condition of a similar farmer in 1885.

If the rent were £100, the gross value of the produce would be £300, leaving £200 for cost of production and profit; but, in 1885, the gross value of produce would be £450, and rent £75, leaving £375 for cost of production and profit: so that the amount now available for cost of production and profit is 1.9 times that available in 1852.

Though labour is higher, machinery has reduced the amount required; so that it is doubtful whether the labour bill is greater now than formerly: taxes also are higher, but the necessaries of life are cheaper.

And again, during the interval enormous sums have been expended on improvements, both from private sources and from public loans.

Thus, there can be no doubt that, if equal skill and industry were employed, the farmer would be at least twice as well off now as in 1852.

This calculation throws some light on the prices given for Tenant-Right of farms held at Judicial Rents; and proves that the present agricultural level, though depressed as regards 1878, is yet far above that of 1852, the date of the valuation, with which the present Judicial Rents very nearly agree.

#### TABLE

Shewing Agricultural Prices for the years 1852 and 1885, derived from a Table of Prices given in Purdon's Almanac for 1886, pp. 169 and 174, where the authorities are given on which the prices are founded. This Almanac is published at the *Irish Farmers' Gazette* Office, Bachelor's Walk, Dublin.

Per Cwt.	Average Prices.	
	1852.	1885.
Wheat Oats Barley Flax Butter Beef Mutton Pork Potatoes Wool, per lb. Hay Straw	s. d. 7 6 4 10 5 6 49 0 65 4 35 6 41 0 22 0 5 0 1 1 1 10 0 11	s. d. 8 5 8 0 7 5 53 0 95 0 55 0 74 0 45 0 2 7 0 8 3 7 3 0
Milch Cows One-year old Two-year old Lambs	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	\$\frac{\pmatrix}{\pmatrix}\$ \frac{\pmatrix}{\pmatrix}\$ \frac{\pmatrix}{\pma