

## Boycotting

### A VIGOROUS SPEECH BY MR. WILLIAM REDMOND, M.P.

From the speech delivered in Newtownbarry by Mr. William Redmond, M.P., on Sunday, we take the following passages on boycotting. We quote from the *Freeman* :—

One of the principal rules of the Land League—and if that rule was broken that agitation could not possibly succeed—was boycotting (great applause). Boycott any man who is false to that League, but, above all, boycott without fear, without mercy, that man who grabs the land from which people have been unjustly evicted (cheers). I put it to yourselves, as people of common sense, do you think you can shake the power of the landlords, Do you think you can get your rents reduced or get your land for your children, if, when a man is thrown but on the roadside by his landlord, one of his neighbours takes that evicted farm? (Hear, hear.) I tell you if you don't put down land-grabbing you may cease this agitation altogether. If you don't put down land-grabbing you will have landlordism in Ireland for time eternal—as long as Ireland lasts; but, on the contrary, if you put down land-grabbing by boycotting the man who takes an evicted farm you will be striking the greatest blow at landlordism in your power, because—doesn't it stand to reason?—don't you know amongst you?—that if a landlord evicts a man unjustly, and can't get anybody to take the land, he must be beaten in the end and must give fair terms to his tenants (applause). Therefore I ask you, in the name of God, to put down land-grabbing in this district (applause), and when I go back to the North of Ireland again I will be able to say that the people of Wexford are determined to put their foot upon land-grabbing and everything likely to prove fatal to the national cause (renewed applause). Now, some of you may think in your own minds that it is easy enough for me, a member of Parliament, to tell you to boycott people, and that when I return to Dublin I will be out of danger (cries of "No, no"), while you will have to face the storm. You know well, men of Wexford, that the advice I give you to-day will be taken to Dublin Castle, and you know that if there is any danger to you in what I have preached, I myself will be the very first to be made to feel that danger, and I myself will be the very first amongst you to be made to suffer (hear, hear). Now, men of Wexford, listen to what I mean by boycotting. Let me clearly define boycotting. You must not injure any man in person or property; you must not commit any assaults upon your neighbour or do anything against the law of the land, such as it is, or the law of God, which I hope you shall never break, and which certainly I never shall ask you to break (applause). But you can boycott a man without transgressing the law of God, or even the law of the

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land, by never speaking to him on the roadsides, by never speaking to him at the fair, by not allowing him to sneak into your national meetings, and above all by the shopkeeper not serving the man who has proved himself an enemy by grabbing land (applause). But, sure, when you want to buy your bread, when you want to buy your tea, when you want to buy anything you require, make sure you get them from the shopkeepers who have been true in vindicating their national principles by not encouraging or dealing with men who have grabbed evicted farms (great applause). If you do this, I can assure you you will overcome the land-grabber, you will break the pride and power of landlordism, and in a short time your labour and all your actions in that direction will result in sweeping landlordism by law out of this land, and establishing a native Parliament to rule over our own affairs (great cheering).