

not to come from such a source, whence do you expect it? You know that capital will be driven from our shores. You have experienced already the distress caused by its withdrawal. Again would we ask you—apart from the incentives supplied by the speeches and newspaper articles of others—what reason for this change does your own experience supply? And if this movement has not sprung from yourselves, whence does it come, and with what motive is it promoted?

WHENCE COMES THE AGITATION?

There are, no doubt, among those who lead this movement many whose hearts are filled with a sincere desire to serve their country's weal, and who seek to do so within the limits of morality and religion. But that great power which—almost unseen itself—is pressing forward this movement from the background, and over which even your leaders have little control—those wild incentives to violence, and anarchy, and communism that reach you from the other side of the Atlantic—are they Irish in their source or in their character? Is their effect on our population such as to foster amongst them those moral, generous, and religious qualities for which Irishmen in the past have been so justly distinguished? Are your priests quite satisfied, in their hearts, with the results which these influences are already exercising? Do they look forward with unmixed complacency to the future? Have they no reason to fear least the effect of this agitation in the end should be to make Ireland at the last the prey of Continental Secularists and Communists—men whom the Church of Rome numbers among her most deadly foes, and who, having wafted their pernicious themes from Germany to America, are endeavoring now to find a place for them in our native land? This is a danger which—if it exists—it behoves the priests of the Church of Rome, and Irishmen of every class and creed, to avert; for disastrous, indeed, would be the day on which the "Isle of Saints" should allow herself to fall into such hands!

One word in conclusion. If we are, indeed, to be a power among our fellow-men at this present time, there is one indispensable condition of success. We must ourselves live very near to God. Our hearts must often be going up to Him in prayer. His Word must be our delight and constant guide. No noisy bluster, not learning, not eloquence, has chief power to mould the wills and hearts of men. A holy life and consistent walk—this it is that tells in the end.