

The Catholic Record

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Catholic Record

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPT. 19, 1886.

MR. PARNELL'S DEMANDS.

That ably conducted journal, the Morning Free Press, in whose views we are so often enabled to concur, discusses the demands recently formulated in Dublin by the Irish leader from a standpoint that does that gentleman and his following but scant justice.

"The minister proceeds: he states a second instance, namely, that of war. Here, again, the fact is against him; the Parliament of Ireland have, ever since their emancipation, concurred with England on the subject of war; but they have concurred, that, before their emancipation, their concurrence was barren, and since their emancipation, it has been productive.

of course, and without the assent of the House of Parliament; he knows that the supply of that war depends not on the Parliament of Ireland, but on Great Britain; and, therefore, the interference of the Parliament of Ireland on that subject is little more than the declaration of a sentiment. Now, the declaration of a sentiment on such a subject is only valuable as it is the sentiment of a nation; and the concurrence of Ireland in British wars can only be the sentiment of a nation as the constitution of the nation; that is to say the rights of Ireland, as claimed by herself, to be exempted from the legislative authority of a British Parliament, are, in fact, the rights of a nation; and, as such, they are not the rights of a colony, the Cape of Good Hope, the Mysore country, nor the dominions of Tippecoo, nor yet the dominions of her western wing, that engage the attention or interests of Ireland; it is her own freedom and constitution; it is her own idea of that independence and self-determination, not such as the constitution, shall hold forth; nor such as English or Scotch metaphysicians, who made claims for America, and called them her constitution, and who are ready now to cast links for Ireland; but that constitution which she herself, Ireland, feels, comprehends, venerates, and claims; and she herself expressed in her convention at Danganooon, and through all her counties and cities, and in every description and association of people, and afterwards in full parliament claimed, carried, registered and recorded; it is for the preservation of this constitution that she is interested in British wars.

Our readers all recollect that soon after his inauguration as President of the United States, Mr. Grover Cleveland named Hon. A. M. Kelly, of Richmond, Virginia, one of the very ablest and most deserving of the public men of the South, to represent the American people at the Quirinal. Mr. Kelly being, however, detained in Italian eyes with the sins of Irish origin and Irish faith was objected to by the Government of King Humbert and his appointment severely criticised by the many survivors of the ante bellum know-nothing craze.

HON. A. M. KELLY.

On his rejection by Italy, Minister Kelly was accredited to the court of Vienna, but, strange to say, that this surviving remnant of feudal barbarism also refused to receive him, on the ground, we believe, that his wife is a Jewess. Now, it so happens, we learn on good authority, that this estimable lady, whatever her origin—into which we are not disposed to enquire—is a devoted Catholic, of which fact the Cabinet of Francis Joseph cannot be ignorant. These facts, therefore, be some other reason for Mr. Kelly's rejection. Italy may have had something to do with it, and Britain is more than suspected of occult interference. We are very happy to open our columns to a letter addressed to Mr. Kelly from St. Paul, Minnesota, by the Right Rev. Dr. Keane, Bishop of Richmond, Virginia. That illustrious bishop says: "I regard the treatment inflicted on you as an insult not only to one of the most highly and deservedly esteemed Catholics of the diocese of Richmond, and one of the most honored citizens of Virginia, but through him to all his fellow-Catholics and fellow-citizens in this country and to the holy father himself. But in this insult to you I can see no humiliation save to those who have offered it. It was an honor to be unwelcome by a government, whose whole course has been marked by injustice and treachery, and the government of Austria having by its recent act made itself the abettor of the guilt and partner in the shame, has thereby made itself incapable of humiliating you. While I have regretted the attacks made upon you by part of the daily press, still that need not concern us much, as nothing better was to be expected from such partisan and interested sources, but I have especially deplored criticisms passed upon you by some Catholic scribblers, who, in their zeal to appear clever and ultra-orthodox, have overlooked the fact that the cause for which you were suffering was the restoration, as well as the condemnation and shame, of their striate. But it is a comfort to know that the utterance of those wholly unauthorized critics have absolutely no weight beyond the infinitesimal weight of the individuals themselves. I am, on this subject, all Catholicos, whose opinion you will find in the columns of the Record and Justice's sake. Your position is, indeed, an embarrassing one, with a family to provide for and your business transferred to others, but surely it cannot be that our government, whose well-meant action has placed you in this embarrassing position, will leave you in it, or fail to so provide that you be in no way a loser by it, and even should that happen, which I cannot believe, still I am confident your well known qualities of head and heart will yet secure to you a career both of honor and profit."

"We should ourselves prefer an Irish Legislature consisting of but one Chamber, elected by the people, with satisfactory constitutional guarantees to the Protestant minority. The main thing now, however, is to get a Parliament of some kind. An Irish Parliament once secured, it would assert its right to all the privileges necessary for the good government of Ireland. As these privileges could not be denied or long withheld we would soon witness the realization of Mr. Parnell's wish for the restoration of Grattan's Parliament, with its far-reaching constitution."

Mr. Parnell will, of course, take all he can obtain in the way of Home Rule for Ireland, but he does that which honesty and sincerity demand in laying before the British Parliament all that Ireland must procure in this respect, to be a happy and contented integral portion of the empire that without her must perish.

Since the above writing Mr. Chamberlain has, in a speech at Warrington, belied his former professions of friendship for Ireland—and his loudly-proclaimed desire to see extended to that country some just measure of home-government. Even the ultra-Tory Standard is delighted with the ultra-radical Chamberlain's declaration of war on Ireland and the Irish party. It is now quite apparent that the member for Birmingham, to attain his own personal aims and promote his selfish interests, is ready to pander to the worst passions of the English people. Our report in another column of Mr. Parnell's speech in Dublin will already show our readers that his demands are neither unjust nor unreasonable. And if it were not for the clamor raised by the British press against the Irish leader on account of the supposed extravagance of that speech, there is no

room to doubt that Mr. Chamberlain would have either kept silence on the subject or boldly stood by his declarations at Warrington and elsewhere in favor of home rule for Ireland. His speech at Warrington proclaims him the foe of Ireland. It is as base an appeal to popular passion and prejudice as ever characterized the tortuous course of the late Lord Beaconsfield. It will have one excellent result, in its demonstration to the Irish people that they have nothing to expect from the English radicals. We could never but regret that political exigencies should at any time render even a momentary alliance of the Irish party with the radicals of England. Such an occasion is not now, we are glad to notice, at all likely to arise in view of Mr. Chamberlain's repudiation of his own pledges and statements. Mr. Parnell will steer clear of both English parties, and now that he knows exactly where Mr. Chamberlain stands on the home rule question, give him and his friends a wide berth.

THE COMING CAMPAIGN IN BRITAIN.

The elections to the British House of Commons will, according to the decision of the Premier, take place on the 14th of November next. Mr. Gladstone will not likely be enabled to take any very active part in the campaign. The onus, therefore, of the actual leadership of the Liberal party must fall on the Marquis of Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain—the former representing the Whig, the latter the Radical element. Between these two sections of the Liberal party there is very little in common. All sections of the party were willing enough to follow Mr. Gladstone, but the Marquis of Hartington is distrusted by the Radicals and Mr. Chamberlain looked on with ill-concealed aversion by the Whigs. The Tory party, on the other hand, has within its elements of strength and unity, that must always, but especially in the present crisis, give it great advantages in an electoral struggle with the Liberals. Were Mr. Gladstone enabled to take part in the canvass, he could indeed arouse the dormant enthusiasm of his party, but with that great orator practically hors de combat, it were unsafe to predict results. We may, however, venture to say that from as careful a survey of the whole situation as we can at this distance make, the fate of the Salisbury government will rest in the hands of the Irish party. Ireland is to send to the next Parliament 103 members. Of these 70 will certainly be supporters of Mr. Parnell, and fifteen anti-nationalists, leaving eighteen seats in doubt, ten of which the national party stands an excellent chance of carrying. The Irish victory may be more complete than these figures would show, but with eighty followers in the next house Mr. Parnell will, we think, be master of the situation. His leadership thus far has been marked by a wisdom, prudence and foresight that augur splendidly for the future. Within a few years he has by his practical skill in leading men, combined with an admirable firmness of character, formed a party that has brought the question of home government for Ireland into a prominence it has not for forty years enjoyed. He has made leading men on both sides of English politics openly avow that the business of Parliament cannot be despatched with promptitude or efficiency so long as Ireland's representatives continue to hold aloof from Whigs and Tories. For the first time since the inauguration of the Legislative Union, British statesmen now declare that the Imperial Parliament cannot do justice to the local concerns of Ireland. Declarations and avowals such as these could never in the days of O'Connell be had from the public men of Britain. Nay, more, O'Connell himself was never able to secure a majority of Irish members in favor of a repeal of the union. It will thus be seen that immense strides have been made towards the realization of Ireland's most ardent hopes and justly founded desires. The coming electoral campaign will for Ireland be the most decisive that she has ever witnessed. If unity, moderation and discretion mark her conduct—as we believe they will—the establishment of an Irish Parliament on Irish soil is close at hand. How often has it not unjustly and untruthfully been declared that Irishmen know not how

to govern themselves! They have now the best opportunity that could be offered them to prove by quiet determination, by unbroken unity of action and by an irrefragable self-control that they are as qualified as any people in the world for the duties of self government. Every crime committed in Ireland during the next few months, will by her enemies be heralded throughout the world as proof of an innate spirit of lawlessness and lack of respect for ordinances, divine and human. The friends of Ireland in America look with eagerness to the old land, trusting that the good counsel of their ecclesiastical and political leaders will be by all classes of Irishmen readily and closely followed. In that case we need not fear the result. Though the election takes place in November, Parliament will not likely be summoned to meet before February, unless indeed Lord Salisbury should, contrary to present expectations, meet with a crushing defeat in England and Scotland. The next few months will, there is no doubt, be the most interesting and exciting the political world of Britain has witnessed since the Reform agitation more than half a century ago.

One happy result certain to follow the elections will be the exclusion from Parliament of those Irish members who since their return have betrayed the trust in them reposed by their constituents and practically gone over to the enemy. The House of Commons will know no more the Erringtons, the O'Connell Powers and the Fays and O'Donoghues who have broken faith with the people that so highly honored them. Better men will in all cases be chosen to fill the places of the half-hearted, the untrustworthy and the untrue.

Another feature likely noticeable after the campaign will be the coming to the front of many new men destined to make their mark in the political history of the three kingdoms. The old party leaders seem, in many cases, to have run their course. Times have, indeed, changed most marvellously since the passage of the Reform bill in 1832. The constituencies are now of a much different mould and a vastly different complexion from what they were when Mr. Gladstone first entered Parliament. The masses of the people have since been enfranchised, and now no man aspiring to prominence in British politics dare raise his voice against these principles of enlightened progress, whose application aims at the securing of the happiness of the multitude, by conferring on the people, as a whole, those rights that give them a true interest in the welfare of the country and whose exercise must have for result the stirring up in the hearts of all that patriotism on which governments must rest and dynamics base their strength and endurance.

At a banquet given the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland at Belfast, on the evening of the 7th, that gentleman made certain declarations that deserve more than passing attention. He held that the time had come to reject sentiment and to institute an impartial and searching enquiry into the relative values of Free Trade and Protection. He had during his trip been struck by the great national resources of the west of Ireland, which, however, remained undeveloped owing to the absence of railways and markets. It was a delicate question whether or not the government should extend its aid to the development of these resources, but the circumstances of Ireland being in his opinion analogous to those of the colonies, such aid might with advantage be given.

We are not now prepared to enter on the discussion of the relative merits of Free Trade and Protection in the abstract. Our readers have followed during the past few years, in the secular papers and on the public platform, discussions on this subject ad nauseam. But we feel bound to express an honest conviction when we say, that the application of the principles of Free Trade to Ireland has proved most disastrous to that country.

With magnificent water privileges of every character and kind, with the richest and most varied natural resources, Ireland, from the industrial point of view, has been ever since the Union of 1801, but especially for the last quarter of a century, continually losing ground, and as a consequence becoming more and more wretched and impoverished, her people kept in enforced idleness, with all the sources of wealth at their very doors. Instead of utilizing a portion of her enormous capital in the development of Irish national wealth, England has gone to the very ends of the earth to seek raw material for her manufacturing and other requirements. The mines of Ireland are unworked, her rich deposits of lead, stone and slate unused but for the limited home consumption, her forest wealth neglected, her fisheries unproductive, and her shipping industry paralysed; and now, in her very food supply to Britain she is outbid by

America. Free Trade has wrought untold evils in Ireland. What that country needs, to attain any measure of industrial development, is due protection for Irish manufactures.

CANADIAN INDEPENDENCE.

Mr. F. W. Glen, M. P. for South Ontario, writes in the Globe of Sep. 11th, a notable letter on the subject of Canadian Independence. The hon. gentleman states that several courses are open to the people of Canada, all of which have been under discussion by the press. Among these he enumerates: (1.) Imperial federation, which he rejects as utterly impracticable. (2.) Annexation, which he says cannot at present be seriously entertained, and (3.) Commercial union with the United States, which he likewise condemns for various reasons. He thinks it would be difficult to agree on a common tariff for the two countries, that England would not consent to negotiate and execute a treaty transferring her trade with us to the United States, while she should remain bound to defend us from attack—that in any case neither power would likely execute a treaty without the right to abrogate it upon due notice after a given time; that owing to the fact that a very large proportion of the manufacturing industries of the United States are protected by patents which in but few cases have been taken out in Canada, the American manufacturers could flood our small market while we were shut out of theirs; and finally, that no new industries would be established in Canada under such a treaty by reason of the fact that fourteen-fifths of the market would be cut off whenever the treaty was abrogated and the value of the investment in plant and fixtures wholly destroyed. Mr. Glen then says: "The other courses open to us are to remain as we are, an appendage of the British Crown, or create on this continent another independent national power. If we are willing to see the flower of our young men leaving us to find homes in the United States, and our fair daughters preferring to give their hearts and hands to American residents rather than Canadians; if we are unfit for self-government; if we are unworthy descendants of our fathers; if we have no appreciation of the inspiring power of a national flag; if we lack the manhood and courage to assume the duties and responsibilities of an independent national existence; in short, if we are too weak and puny to be weaned, then, by all means, let us hold fast to the nursing bottle and remain as we are.

"If, on the contrary, we are of age, let us unflinchingly face the nations of the earth a flag of our own, and, as it floats in the breeze, solemnly declare before God and all mankind, that come weal or come woe, we will defend it even unto death. . . . We are five millions of the best people in the world, possessing great general intelligence, courageous, industrious, prudent, energetic, ingenious, moral law-abiding, with more practical knowledge of civil and political affairs than any other people in the world but the citizens of the United States—in agriculture more advanced than any but the English people—in shipping, only two or three nations excel us on the globe. Our educational institutions are inferior to none in the world—our press ranks with the best—our public and charitable institutions are highly honorable to us. We have within our borders unlimited natural resources. We are descendants of the best races of mankind on the earth, but if we are not yet of age let us still hold fast to the nursing bottle, but if we are let us have a flag of our own on every sea. Amen and amen."

EARL CARNARVON IN BELFAST.

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Great Britain should for some time longer be maintained, but we nevertheless feel it a grievance and a crying injustice that Canada should not have the right of negotiating commercial treaties of her own. So long as we are kept in this state of bondage, so long will Canadians continue to crowd into the busy marts and great industrial centres of the United States—so long will growth in wealth and population, that should be so rapid, continue at a comparative standstill.

AN IMPORTANT PASTORAL.

We have great pleasure in laying before our readers a translation of the pastoral letter of His Lordship the Bishop of Three Rivers, on the occasion of the division of his diocese. His Lordship, addressing the clergy, the religious communities and faithful laity of his diocese, says: "We have, very dear brethren, just received from the Holy See an important document, the tenor of which we hasten to convey to you. On the 10th of July last it pleased His Holiness Leo XIII., on the advice of the Most Eminent, the Cardinals of the Sacred Congregation of the Propaganda, to divide one diocese into two parts, of which the one, that situated to the north of the river St. Lawrence, shall continue to form the diocese of Three Rivers, and the other, that situated to the south of that river, shall constitute a new diocese, under the name of the diocese of Nicolet. The Episcopal See of this new diocese and the residence of its titular are fixed in the town of Nicolet, whose parochial church is erected into a cathedral.

You, very dear brethren, have been witnesses of the untiring efforts and numerous sacrifices we have, especially for the last two years, made to prevent this project of division from being carried out. If we thus acted it was because in all the sincerity of our heart, we believed it our duty to do so, and in this view of our interests and the interests of our holy faith. Wherefore it was to us the source of so little consolation, of no feeble encouragement to us to hear, during our last voyage to Rome in 1883, the Holy Father declare to us: "It is not only your right, it is also your duty to protect your diocese with solicitude." Furthermore, this approbation of our conduct was given in a manner more emphatic again when, on the 9th of July last, His Eminence, Cardinal Simeoni, writing to inform us that the Holy Father had decided to decree the division of our diocese, addressed us in the following words: "His Holiness has in this juncture, enjoined on me to assure your Lordship that he is well pleased with the efficacious zeal that your Lordship has shown, as well during your career as missionary among the Indians, and as executor of your pastoral charge in the diocese of Three Rivers, as in the signal services rendered as bishop by your Lordship to that same diocese, and that the institutions you have there established will ever in the eyes of the Holy Father, remain a proof of the solicitude with which your Lordship has corresponded, and still corresponds, to the duties of the position you hold. By all the foregoing your Lordship will see how foreign to the mind of the Holy Father is the idea that evil-minded persons seek to have disseminated concerning the above-mentioned division, namely, that this division has been brought about by want of confidence on the part of the Holy See in your Lordship." But, now, very dear brethren, that the supreme authority pronounces in a manner contrary to our view, and that it thus exonerates us from all responsibility in connection with the division of our diocese, it is our duty to obey and respect the decision given, and this duty we fulfil in a way fitting our charge as pastor. We conform our will with entire submission to the will of the Holy See, for we trust that God will grant us all the merit of this full and entire obedience, as He is pleased to give us the satisfaction arising from duty done. We do not, very dear brethren, think that you will be fully submissive and obedient in every respect to the pontifical decision. This is our most ardent wish and our expressed will. The spirit of the just man, says the Holy Scripture, meditates obedience, while the mouth of the wicked is filled with evil discourse. *Memento mediator obedientiam, et imperium reducat malis.* (Prov., vi, 23.)

Draw, then, from your sentiments of Christian piety and your well-known devotion to the Catholic Church, all the respect and all the veneration fitting to be given at all times to the supreme decisions of the Vicar of Jesus Christ, in whom rests primarily the care of souls and the highest solidities for the spiritual interests of all.

The decree of division which we received on Sunday last, the 23rd inst., having been yesterday published in the town of Nicolet, at the same time as His Lordship, Mgr. Elphege Gravel, the new Bishop, took possession of his see, the faithful on the south side of the river, by that fact ceased to form part of our jurisdiction. This letter cannot therefore be addressed to them. We desire, however, in parting from them, to render public testimony to the fact that they, clergy and people, did in a manner worthy praise, generally respond to the solicitudes of our pastoral office. We have many a time admired their lively and ardent faith, their spirit of self-sacrifice, the piety and zeal in promoting the interests of God's glory and of our holy religion. We have been especially moved by the profound respect that they generally showed for our sacred character, and for the high charge with which it has pleased God—notwithstanding our unworthiness, to invest us—as also the filial confidence and affection with which they supported us during fifteen years of our administration. Wherefore with great affliction and true rendering of our heart we to-day through obedience part from them and cease to be their pastor. Let them be at least assured that our attachment to them will never fail, that their memory will ever be imperishable in our soul, and that if it is permitted on our part to convey them last wish and make them a last recommendation, we will to them say: "May he who for fifteen years was your most loving and devoted father be not in his old days deprived of the succor

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