

" office of *Promotor cause Martyrum Hibernorum*. I
 " need not say what a pleasure it was to me to be
 " employed in such a duty, and ever since, I have
 " been engaged in collecting extracts from various
 " sources, chiefly books of Irish and foreign writers,
 " bearing on the life and death of our martyrs. The
 " list of Martyrs' names amounts already (Oct. 3rd
 " 1889) to something like 400, and lately, during a
 " visit which I paid to Spain in order to make a search
 " in the histories of our Irish college there, I found
 " other names which I had not seen till then. By
 " New Year's day I hope, please God, we shall begin
 " our *Court* here; that is a part of the process, a
 " preliminary to the case being submitted to the
 " Congregation at Rome. With the documents I have
 " brought together, I have no doubt we shall be able
 " to prove that a vast number of our people suffered
 " strictly in *odium fidei*! May I ask you to show this
 " letter to your friends who show such a kindly
 " interest in this work. It cheers us all much more
 " than I can tell you in words, to find that those of
 " the Irish race in foreign lands are at all times so
 " willing to lend us a helping hand in our long and
 " weary struggle for what is our right. The struggle,
 " I am happy to say, is near its end.

" Yours very truly,

" DENIS MURPHY, S. J."

Putting this and that together, I said to myself:
 May we not hope that the day that witnesses the
 raising to the altars of Holy Mother Church of this
 " noble army of martyrs," may also usher-in, under
 God's providence, the restoration of national freedom
 to the dear land which these holy men sanctified with
 their life's blood? And then came the idea of inviting
 our race in a league of daily prayer, which I have
 sought to effect by distributing the enclosed leaflet.