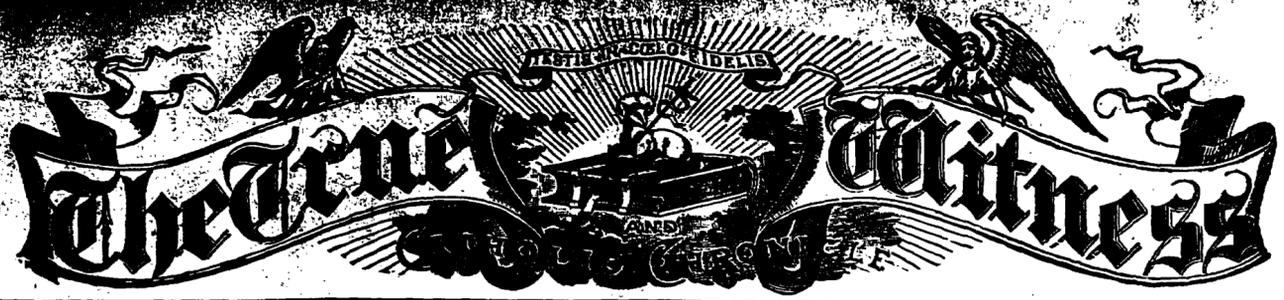


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Our Paper Should be in the hands of every Catholic Family.

"FRIENDSHIP, UNITY AND CHRISTIAN CHARITY."

Grand Convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians.

A Good Example for the Irish Race at Home—Patriotic Address by Bishop McFaul—Letter of Greeting from John Dillon, M.P.—A Magnificent Parade.

As the TRUE WITNESS briefly announced in its last issue, the great National Convention of the reunited Ancient Order of Hibernians, held in Trenton, N.J., last week, was a magnificent success.

The convention opened Monday morning, when the delegates assembled in St. Mary's Cathedral, where Solemn High Mass was celebrated. The officers of the Mass were: Celebrant, Rev. D. J. Duggan, B. Ardentown; deacon, Rev. George Osborne; sub-deacon, R. v. William F. Dunphy; master of ceremonies, Rev. John McCloskey. Right Rev. Bishop McFaul occupied the episcopal throne.

Father Fox acted as assistant priest and the deacons of honor were Rev. E. S. Phillips and William J. McLoughlin. Father Fox delivered a masterly sermon.

The full Cathedral choir of forty five voices furnished an excellent musical programme.

It was about 2:30 o'clock when the open session was called to order by Bishop McFaul. As the Bishop walked out on to the stage he was greeted with the most enthusiastic applause.

"This enthusiastic greeting," he said, "renders it impossible to restrain the feelings awakened in my breast by the sight of this convention, composed of delegates from all parts of the United States and Canada, for the purpose of lastingly cementing the union so happily accomplished during this memorable year of '98."

"As a man whose pride is to have first seen the light of day beneath the genial sky of the ever-faithful Isle, as the chief pastor of the Diocese of Trenton, as Bishop of the Catholic Church, I bid you a thousand welcomes and pray God to bless your deliberations. Questions momentous to the integrity, the progress, the prosperity of your noble order—the questions whose significance and importance are far-reaching, not limited merely to the interests of your own organization, but co-extensive with the welfare of the Irish race—will engage your attention. Wherever an Irishman, sea, wherever there dwells a heart in which pulsates Irish blood—and what land visited by the sun in his majestic course around the world does not cherish the sons and daughters of Erin?—the principles of Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity here proclaimed by a reunited Ancient Order of Hibernians will meet a generous welcome and encourage the sea-divided Gael to unite for securing the strength and the influence which, joined to that indomitable courage which has never deserted us during long ages of oppression and tyranny, will place dear old Ireland forever in possession of her long-sought liberty."

"Here I may be permitted to remind you that the poet, dwelling in the bitterness of his soul upon the miseries of his native land, has announced their cause in tones which must find an echo in every Irish heart:

"Let Erin remember the days of old Ere her faithless sons betrayed her; When Malachy wore the collar of gold, Which he won from the proud invader."

"Ah, yes, let us remember the days of our glory and our sorrow, and let no thoughtless word or act mar the magnificent future of the Irish nation and the Irish race. Looking out into that future, I see the star of Irish freedom rising on the horizon, I behold it approaching the zenith whence it will bathe with generous beams the hills and the vales of the 'Emerald gem of the Western World.'"

"Concerted effort enabled us to retain that faith which we hold dearer than life; disunion caused the tears of the Children of Erin to flow at home."

"Disunion had rendered it possible for the poet to describe the woes of an Irishman in a foreign land, as it had been done in the 'Exile of Erin.' The Bishop then ably recited this pretty poem of Campbell, and it provoked much applause."

Continuing, he said: "Union among Irishmen also enabled our fathers to

stand shoulder to shoulder with other nationalities while they laid deeply and firmly the foundations of free institutions in this fair land. For does not history proclaim that one-half of the American Revolution was composed of Irish Catholics and Irish Presbyterians? Here they fought and bled and died for liberty. A memorable example is found in this city of Trenton, where the names of McKonkey, the Irish Presbyterian, and Patrick Colvin, the Irish Catholic, have been rendered glorious by the assistance they gave to Washington and his army at the battle of Trenton.

"This same spirit made conspicuous the labors of Irishmen and their sons as officers in the army and navy, and even in our legislative halls—for we number nine signers of the Declaration of Independence and six framers of the Constitution."

"These deeds prove that the Irish, when united, are invincible. Shall we not, then, stand together for race and fatherland? Yes; disunion shall not weaken our efforts. We have and we shall be generous enough to make sacrifices for union that Ireland may rejoice in the garlands of liberty, prosperity and peace."

"Then, O Irishmen, with union at home and union abroad, with fair Columbia extending assistance Erin shall arise in her might, and shaking off the shackles of oppression, take her place among the nations of the earth."

"Let, therefore, your deliberations this week be conducted in the spirit of your great fundamental principles—Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity; let all personal ambition, old jealousies and contentions be cast aside, and this will be the grandest convention known in the history of your organization and productive of most important results to the Irish race throughout the world."

Mayor Sichel received an ovation when he stepped forward to welcome the delegates. He was followed by P. J. O'Connor, of Savannah, Ga., president of the American wing of the order, and Rev. E. S. Phillips, of Hazleton, Pa., national president of the Board of Fain wing. In presenting these gentlemen, Bishop McFaul paid tribute to their work in bringing about the reunion.

Father Phillips paid a glowing tribute to Bishop McFaul. "Fourteen years ago," he said, "relying on ourselves and listening, perhaps, to unwise counsel, we began to wage a suicidal war on each other, and thus defied the principle taught us in our motto of 'Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity.' Passion, selfishness, urged us on until at last our factional contentions became a stench in the nostrils of honest men, who hated a Hibernianism that was a divided Catholicism. But now, however, by the grace of the good God, who loves holy old Ireland, we are united together in one loving body, one full of charity for each other. We have been brought together by the patience and brilliant efforts of a grand churchman, whose high ecclesiastical honors, whose civil and social surroundings never caused him, and I say of him, never will cause him, to lose his love for the fair land of his birth and for the children of St. Patrick, the patron of our order."

"My Lord, we thank you, and to the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America, for all time, we will leave as a sacred heritage the name of James A. McFaul."

Mr. O'Connor, in reply to the addresses of welcome of the Bishop and Mayor, made a very eloquent address. "The cordial greeting extended to us by his Lordship, Bishop McFaul, is highly appreciated," he said. "Through his earnest and patriotic efforts we are here to complete the unification of our people and receive his blessing. The city of Trenton is bristling with inspiring and historic memories, and the grand result achieved for Hibernianism therein will long be remembered. We are glad to be among our New Jersey brethren, composed of men of true manliness, high moral character, eminent ability, devotion to the holy church, loyalty to American institutions and with love for the Emerald Isle. We will carry with us from out of the gates of this city the kindest remembrance of the efforts of the people to make this visit one of the sweet memories of our lives. We are proud of the A. O. H., which has for its object the making of its members better as to themselves, better as to their families, and better citizens of their country. Our reports show that we have disbursed more than \$500,000 in charity. Our character is co-extensive with the world itself."

After telling the deeds of valor of Irishmen in the former wars in which this country took part, Mr. O'Connor said: "In the present conflict our people are nobly doing their part, and the most brilliant pages of history, when written, will be illumined by the brave deeds and valor of our people. And friends, there is one consolation I extract out of the present conflict, and it is that it has ever wiped out the dividing lines that so long separated the North and the South."

At the close of the address Bishop McFaul, as the presiding officer of the temporary organization, announced the

other temporary officers. James O'Sullivan, of Philadelphia, national secretary of the American branch; Edward R. Hayes, of New Brunswick, national secretary of the Board of Erin wing, and John P. Dillard, of Trenton, were named as the temporary secretaries. N. J. O'Brien, of Indiana; Charles J. O'Neill of New Hampshire, representing the American branch; James J. Carroll, of New York; C. P. Boland, of Pennsylvania, representing the Board of Erin, were named as the committee on credentials.

In the evening the handsome arch at the corner of State and Warren streets was lighted and the band on top attracted thousands of people to the corner. The arch was by far the most beautiful that has ever been erected in Trenton. On either column supporting the arch were electric lights formed into the letters "A. O. H.," in green, surrounded by white electric lights. Across the top and immediately under the band stand was the word, "Welcome," displayed in red lights.

The second day's programme started with a morning meeting at the Opera House, at which the following cable was read:

"All hail to the Ancient Order of Hibernians, which has by its union set a good example to the Irish race."

Letters and telegrams of congratulation were read from Bishop Foley and others.

Pending the report of the committee on credentials the convention adjourned to 3 o'clock.

Bishop McFaul presided over the day's meetings. At the afternoon session, after the Bishop had read the terms agreed upon as the basis of the reunion of both wings, he announced that the next business in order was the election of officers to serve until the election of officers the latter part of the week. Rev. E. S. Phillips, who was at the head of the Board of Erin, nominated P. J. O'Connor, of Savannah, Ga. who was the head officer of the other wing when the reunion took place. Mr. O'Connor was selected by acclamation.

A letter was read from Bishop Foley, of Detroit, in which he expressed his pleasure at the reunion of the order and returned a cheque for over \$219, the sum received in excess of the \$50,000 promised by the order to found a Celtic chair at the Catholic University at Washington, D.C.

The reports of the officers followed. That of Rev. E. S. Phillips, of the B. of E., was confined to explaining the cause of the reunion of the order, which, he said, was to set as an example to Irishmen in all parts of the world and to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the fight for Ireland's freedom.

Mr. O'Connor, in his report, spoke of the attention the ladies' auxiliary should receive and the amount of good it has done for four years. The famine in the western part of Ireland, and the need of immediate action by the Ancient Order of Hibernians to relieve the same, and the war between Spain and the United States, were dealt with.

National Secretaries O'Sullivan and Hayes and Treasurer Dondon followed. Secretary O'Sullivan reported that the American branch had 1,491 subordinate bodies and 38 military companies, with 90,967 members, located in all the States and Territories, excepting Wyoming, and in New Brunswick, Ontario, Quebec and Prince Edward Island. The disbursements for two years for sick and funeral benefits were \$517,064.52; for charitable and other purposes, \$412,948; balance in the treasuries of subordinate lodges, \$648,825.19.

The ladies' auxiliary has 298 divisions and 19,915 members. It has paid out \$11,087.38 in sick and funeral benefits and \$19,148.84 for charitable and other purposes, and has a balance of \$48,545.04. Secretary Edward R. Hayes reported that the Board of Erin had about 5,000 members.

Despite the heat Wednesday's parade was a great success, and during the afternoon fully 20,000 persons were at the Trenton Driving Park, where an excellent programme of sports was furnished as well as an abundance of refreshments. At the episcopal residence, on North Warren street, the procession was reviewed by Right Rev. Bishop McFaul and Mayor Sichel, together with the national officers of the two late wings of Hibernians, a large number of priests and the citizens' committee. The reviewing stand, which had been erected for the occasion, was handsomely decked with American flags, and as the marchers passed, with heads bared, the sight was a very impressive one.

The parade was a great success, one of the greatest civic demonstrations the town has ever seen. There were a score of bands and about 8,000 Irishmen, or sons of Irishmen, marched over the route.

All along the line were to be seen decorations. Most of the delegates carried small American flags, and there was none without a little bit of "Old Glory" in his coat lapel.

The right of line in the procession was given to the Hibernian Rifles of Philadelphia, under Captain Barron, and headed by a military band of thirty pieces. Colonel Michael Hurley was grand marshal of the parade.

When annoyed or excited the Prince of Wales winks his left eye rapidly, the Emperor of Austria puffs out his cheeks, the Czar lays his hand flat on the top of his head and the Sultan of Turkey grasps his throat lightly with his hand.

MICHAEL DAVITT ON THE "ALLIANCE."

It Has Died of "Too Much Chamberlain."

Opinions of Sir Charles Dilke and Mr. Asquith—Questions Put by Irish Members.

Mr. Michael Davitt, M.P., writes as follows to the Irish World, of New York:—

"Died of too much Chamberlain" will be the verdict which the historian of the Anglo-Saxon intrigues against the United States will have to record when writing of the "alliance" movement of today. For I feel convinced that last night's debate in the House of Commons, and particularly the Colonial Secretary's speech, will open the eyes of the American people as to the unscrupulous selfishness with which England is pursuing the game of trying to entangle America in British quarrels and intrigues all the world over. And, when once the real object of this game is comprehended on your side of the water, it is safe to assert that American opinion will declare itself opposed to any such entanglement.

In many respects the debate was one of the most interesting and important of this session. It revealed, even more completely than the document now known as "The Blue Book" (the official correspondence between Great Britain and Russia over the Chinese question), the extent to which the Government of St. Petersburg has triumphed over that of England in the Far East. In fact, the discussion between the Minister and Opposition benches resolved itself into a controversial combat as to which party, Tory or Liberal, had permitted Russia to humiliate the British Empire the most.

"You permitted Russia to occupy Port Arthur and Tientsin," cried Sir William Harcourt.

"You allowed the same power in 1844 to encroach upon the Paimers, and to bring the Muscovite outposts within a few miles of the Indian frontier."

And, so the rival contentions went on, in face of a smiling world, proclaiming, as from the housetops, how completely the great empire of the North has vanquished the prestige of her rival in Asia all along the line from the region of the Ganges to that of the Gulf of Pecheli.

What interested listening Irishmen most in last night's rivalries was the references which were made by the leading British statesmen to the proposed Anglo-American "alliance." Early in the afternoon an Irish member had extracted from Mr. Curzon admissions as to the nature and scope of the commission appointed to settle fishery disputes between America and Canada, which exploded the carefully nurtured supposition that this body was, virtually, an "arbitration" tribunal, on a small scale; the thin end of a new arbitration treaty. As in the matter of the fabricated "European coalition" against the United States, so was it attempted to mislead opinion on the Continent and in America about the powers and purpose of this commission. But, truth comes uppermost in the end, and it can only be sincerely hoped that this system of diplomatic dodging on the part of English Ministers will soon become as apparent to gullible people in the States as it has been all along to those of us who are, in a sense, behind the scenes here.

Sir Charles Dilke is a very level-headed English politician, full of knowledge on all international questions and possessing a very clear judgment on matters American. He spoke fairly about the United States, and had the courage to point out how impracticable, if not impossible, an alliance between England and this Republic would be while so important an element in your public life as that made up of citizens of Irish blood remained a factor of antagonism to such an understanding. The point was well put, and its force was not lost upon the minds of his audiences. The speech of the evening, however, was that of Mr. Asquith. It was the most damaging to the case of the Ministerialists of any of the subsequent indictments spoken against Lord Salisbury and Mr. Chamberlain. But the late Home Secretary walked warily on the topic of the "alliance." He did not even use the word. He substituted "understanding," and urged, of course (for England's sake), the cultivation of the friendliest possible relations; short, however, of a too binding compact.

Then came the first official reply from the Government. The Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was the Ministerial spokesman, and almost his first performance was to draw a line of demarcation between Lord Salisbury as Foreign Secretary and Mr. Chamberlain as Secretary for the Colonies. It was a most significant incident and made an impression which told very much against the Government, creating, as it was bound to do, the conviction that the Cabinet has two policies and is to that extent weak in its dealings with external rivals. Mr. Curzon is an able man, with a somewhat bumptious manner, which rather tells against the exercise

of the undoubted ability which he possesses. He was eloquent on the United States as a friendly nation; claimed that American good will was mainly due to Lord Salisbury's courtesy, &c., &c., and went on to express the confident expectation that the arbitration treaty which the Senate rejected in May, 1879, would be agreed to by America in the near future. On an Irish member venturing to say "Question" to his prediction, the Under Secretary replied in sanguine hope, and it is now on every mind that the policy of the Chamberlain is to talk alliance and to work for arbitration.

There was not a word from the Government benches about an Anglo-American alliance, with the exception of an expression from Mr. Chamberlain, which was, however, instantly quashed by the admission that the United States did not at present want such an alliance. This is significant of much. It shows that the impossibility of an alliance is now recognized by English Ministers if not by London papers, and the subject at which they are aiming is the resurrection of the arbitration treaty, which, if passed by the Senate, would serve British interests in Europe and Asia just as well as would such an alliance as could be possible under the constitution of the Republic and the saving quality of the Monroe Doctrine.

The one significant incident in the debate was the somewhat unexpected speaker, Ministerialist and Liberal, upon the alleged "European coalition" against the United States. There was not even a passing reference to this nameless British fiction, by aid of which the English press sought to obtain expressions of American good will towards Great Britain and of opposition to France and Russia, at a moment when the powers were in dispute with England over matters in Africa and China with which the United States has no concern whatever.

I am anxious to see if the American press will note this feature of the debate. They (the press) have played the part of willing or unwilling dupes in this dishonest game, and they should be called upon, in the interest of truth and fair play, to demand the proofs of this suggested "coalition" after the failure of the House of Commons last night to even hint at the existence of such a combination. Possibly, however, the papers referred to will continue to perform their part in this intrigue against the best interests of their own country. Anything which is "good copy" appears to be welcome to some organs of opinion in the States, whether it injures the cause or damages the reputation of the Republic before other nations, or not.

Mr. Chamberlain was never so tight a corner as that into which his famous Birmingham speech placed him last night. He had to defend an impossible position and virtually to apologize for language toward Russia which, with perverse inconsistency, he refused to withdraw. I never heard him in worse form. He is usually the clearest and most trenchant debater in the House of Commons; forcible in argument, clever in retort, and with a ready command of language and logic. He retained all his old audacity in last night's speech, but he floundered along in a most ineffectual attempt to reply to Asquith and Harcourt, or to extricate himself out of the network of difficulties into which his Birmingham pronouncement of a few weeks back had placed him. His defense of himself was a conspicuous failure, and the press of Europe will to day recognize how weak in reality is the man who created the impression a month ago that he was the only strong man in the present British Ministry. The same press will likewise see in the whole tenor of last night's discussion how unable even a whole Cabinet of English Ministers is to cope with the one Russian diplomat who has fooled England before the world—Count Muraviev.

If Mr. Chamberlain could not take it out of Russia in his apologies, it occurred to him that he might at least have satisfaction out of the Irish, and in the end of his speech he committed the most blinding indiscretion of the whole debate. He commenced to laud England's "humanity," "love of liberty" and all that sort of thing, as reasons why America and Great Britain should unite. This was more than Irish members could tolerate, and cries of "Afrides!" "Matscheland!" rang over the chamber. This caused Mr. Chamberlain to lose his head completely, and he "went for" you Irish in the States in his best style. "America will not listen to the protests of the Irish," or "if they do attempt to interfere with the Anglo-Saxon alliance, the Anglo-Saxons of America will make short work of the Irish." These words are not reported in to-day's Times, but they were spoken near midnight last night, and the looks of dismay which came over the faces of the more sober minded advocates of the "alliance" proposal were compensating to look upon by the Irish members who had provoked the Colonial Secretary into this burst of anti-Irish-American antipathy.

A few indignant words from Mr. John Dillon brought this historic debate to an end. He pointed out that while citizens of Irish blood had fought on every battlefield for the United States, from Lexington to Appomattox, England and her Anglo-Saxons had thrice striven to destroy the republic. This thrust went home, and so did we, well satisfied with the night's proceedings.

THE GLORIOUS FOURTH IN NEW YORK.

The Terrible Heat Caused Many Deaths And Prostrations.

Lightning Did its Deadly Work in Many Places—Tornadoes Ruin Villages and Cost Many Lives—The Usual Number of Accidents From Fireworks and Firearms—A Fashionable Wedding.

New York, July 2. Beside the great national events which helped to celebrate the glorious Fourth, New York had many other celebrations of her own. Of course, with the indiscriminate use of firearms and fireworks, the usual number of accidents to the younger generation were bound to occur. Happily these were not serious; but when the artillery of the heavens took a hand in them strange phenomena were visible.

A striking incident occurred at Glenview Park, where the shooting contest of the National Shooting Ground was in progress. Before General Hall scarcely raised his rifle to his shoulder, when there came a blinding flash of lightning, and the instant a third ball of fire seemed to descend from the muzzle of Minerva's rifle, along its barrel and directly into his face. The man fell and lay as though dead. The crash of thunder, which followed, silenced the reports of the dozen or more rifles fired at that moment by the sharpshooters. A few moments later a crowd of anxious men gathered around the prostrate man.

The same stroke of lightning struck Henry K. King, son of the proprietor of the park. He was standing near Minerva, keeping score of the shots. His penit was struck from his hand, but he was not injured. The lightning interrupted the dancing in the pavilion. Fifty of the young people there say that a "ball of lightning" rolled about the feet of a couple dancing at "two step," paralyzing for a moment the young man and his partner. Bewildered the young man glared about the room and asked: "Who threw that torpedo at us?" Assured that they had been dancing with a "thunderbolt" the couple hurried out of the pavilion.

In Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, lightning claimed three victims shocked to death. In Providence lightning struck the top of Targen Bagumson's head and ran down his spinal column. In Baltimore five deaths were due to lightning. At Hampton, N.H., a tornado struck the town and cut a swath four hundred feet wide in a westerly course, travelling out to sea. The atmospheric disturbance came almost without warning, and was accompanied by little rain at first, a few large drops preceding the swoop of the winds.

In an instant, almost, cottages were blown flat, horses were picked up bodily and dashed against buildings, vehicles carried many feet, barns roofed, large trees snapped off at their roots as if simply cut stalks, while others were torn up bodily. The effect of the storm was shown noticeably in the way electric wires of all kinds were tangled up. The tornado touched the beach at a place about half a mile north of Whittier's Hotel and cut a swath 100 yards wide in a westerly direction, moving in rotary shape, until it passed out to sea. In a short time twenty cottages were torn down and several small hotels completely wrecked. The greatest loss of life and injury came with the demolition of the old skating rink near Leavitt's, a single storey structure of wood 50 by 100 feet.

Here from 75 to 123 persons were seriously wounded and 7 persons are already dead.

A yacht owned by Captain Frank Mudd, of this place, was sailing off the beach and was in the path of the storm. In it were nine persons, and of these five were drowned.

The same storm caught an excursion boat heavily laden with women and children and drove it upon the rocks. Over a score perished so that there were many cases for mourning as well as rejoicing. But it was the heat, the deadly furnace-like heat, that brought misery and death to the poor of the city. It came like the breath of a sirocco. At three o'clock on the afternoon of the fourth the thermometer reached 111, and many people, maddened by the temperature, sought to end their lives, and one man at least was successful in the attempt. It may be that some who threw themselves from the city's piers did so not so much with suicidal intent as through an uncontrollable longing, which the sight of the cool waters inspired. There were many cases of injury to tenement dwellers, who, unable to sleep in their hot and narrow rooms, sought rest upon roofs and fire escapes, and rolled off as they tossed and turned in their fitful slumbers. Night and day the almost deserted streets resounded with the clang of ambulance gongs as vehicles of mercy hurried on their way to pick up those who had in one way or another fallen victims to the sun's fury. It was so hot that the asphalt pavement in many streets became so soft that it

CONCLUDED ON PAGE FIVE.