

ARCHBISHOP CLEARY.

Letter to Hon. Edward Blake, M. P.

THE PALACE, Kingston,
29th January, 1895.

To the Honorable Edward Blake.

DEAR MR. BLAKE—I have pleasure in sending you a draft on London for £115 10s, balance of the collection taken up in my Diocese in aid of the Irish Parliamentary Party:

The total amount of the collection was \$2,083.30
By your draft for £300 accepted on credit with interest thereon at 3% per cent \$1,512.70
By enclosed draft for bal. 569.60
\$2,083.30

In view of the extremely depressed condition of agricultural, commercial and industrial affairs in this country, as well as in the neighboring Republic, during the past few years, you will, I expect, give my Diocese credit for marked generosity in contributing so largely to the maintenance of the Irish Parliamentary Party. On looking over the detailed list of parochial offerings, you will see how creditably my priests, most of whom never saw the Green Isle, have behaved in encouraging their parishioners by their own example to show practical sympathy with the Home Rule cause in this hour of gravest necessity and brightest hope. It is true that we did better heretofore, and were enabled to send more than £600 to the Irish Party through Archbishop Croke at Christmas, 1886. But my Diocese has since then been divided, and times were then much better than now. As an evidence, however, that the patriotic spirit of my clergy and people has nowise abated, I may mention the fact, that this year's collection in the diminished territory of Kingston Diocese exceeds that of August, 1892, by \$120 (one hundred and twenty dollars), despite the abnormal dearth of money at the present time.

The enemies of Ireland are doing their level best, as you are aware, to dissuade the people of Canada and the United States from aiding her financially by their persistent publication of exaggerated accounts of fratricidal discord and sectional warfare within her Parliamentary Party. They picture in lively rhetorical form the alienation and disgust of sober-minded Englishmen as the natural result of those unhappy feuds, and the consequent impossibility of securing the votes of England, without which it is hardly to be expected that the Home Rule Bill will receive the sanction of the Crown. Beyond all doubt, the articles on this subject copied from the hostile Tory and Liberal-Unionist papers of England, and the "special" waspish correspondence of Smalley and Co. appearing from day to day in the Ontario Atlantic journals, have done grievous harm to the Irish cause financially and otherwise. We hear it in both ears; we see it with painful distinctness. But history is witness that every national struggle for popular liberties has had to contend against similar obstruction, and that final victory has been attained solely by patient endurance of manifold wrong and wrongful misrepresentation, and by perseverance in the disciplined and united action of the popular leaders.

Thanks to God and to the sound common sense of my people, those bitter criticisms have wrought no evil influence amongst us in Eastern Ontario. Nevertheless those unseemly and apparently causeless discussions among Irishmen, the elected representatives of the nation and trustees of her hopes—men of ability, all of them, and of undoubted integrity, most of them—are certainly to be deplored by Irishmen at home and abroad and by all good men. They look too like personal jealousies overruling the supreme considerations of patriotism in a most

trying crisis through impatience of party discipline and too ready resentment of alighted pride. They supply a pretext for reviving and emphasizing the obsolete theory of radical defectiveness in the character of our race, unfitting us for self-government. In this sense they are used with great force of argument against us, and wring our hearts with grief, whilst they bring joy to the sworn foes of freedom. We in Canada can only remonstrate in tender language, and entreat the discordant leaders to hush up their petty quarrels, and reserve their differences of opinion for the enclosure of the committee room. Meanwhile we earnestly hope and pray to God to interpose according to the ways of His benign providence, and put an end somehow to all strife within the party before the hour for decisive battle comes, so that Ireland's representatives may be marshalled in solid phalanx to meet the enemy face to face in the hall of Westminster.

For myself and those whom I represent permit me to assure you of our admiration and gratitude for the sacrifices you have made, and the splendid service you are rendering to the cause so dear to our hearts:

I remain, dear Mr. Blake,
Yours sincerely,
JAMES VINCENT CLEARY,
Archbishop of Kingston.

The collections in the Archdiocese of Kingston, 1894, were:

| PARISHES. | LAITY. |
|--|------------|
| Kingston Cathedral (including \$50 from Hon. Wm. Harty...) | 263 25 |
| Erinsville | 26 80 |
| N. panee | 41 0 |
| Westport | 40 00 |
| Chesterville | 35 00 |
| Read | 44 00 |
| Carleton Place | 75 00 |
| Bedford | 8 00 |
| Merrickville | 90 00 |
| Brewer's Mills | 25 00 |
| Morrisburg | 20 00 |
| Gananoque | 78 50 |
| Twed | 30 00 |
| Yonge | 20 00 |
| Frankford | 21 50 |
| Prescott | 41 75 |
| Smith's Falls | 146 00 |
| Toledo | 42 00 |
| Spencerville | 32 00 |
| Wolfe Island | 40 00 |
| Perth | 71 00 |
| Marysville | 33 00 |
| Centreville | 25 00 |
| Trenton | 28 00 |
| Belleville | 80 00 |
| Loboro | 8 00 |
| Stanleyville | 25 00 |
| Pictou | 20 00 |
| Brockville | 150 00 |
| Kemptville | 36 50 |
| Madoc | 28 75 |
| | \$1,621 05 |

| CLERGY. | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Archbishop Cleary | \$ 50 00 |
| Ven. Archbishop Kelly | 5 00 |
| Rev. J. V. Neville | 5 00 |
| " J. J. Collins | 5 00 |
| " A. Carson | 5 00 |
| " J. Kehoe | 5 00 |
| Father Cicolari | 10 00 |
| " Hogan | 15 00 |
| " Twohey | 10 00 |
| Dean O'Connor | 10 00 |
| Father T. McCarthy | 10 00 |
| " O'Rourke | 10 00 |
| " Killen | 2 00 |
| " J. McCarthy | 10 00 |
| " Carey | 10 00 |
| " Twomey | 10 00 |
| " O'Gorman | 15 00 |
| " Fleming | 10 00 |
| " J. J. Kelly | 5 00 |
| " Connolly | 5 00 |
| " Brennan | 5 00 |
| Dean Masterson | 20 00 |
| Father Stanton | 25 00 |
| " M. Spratt | 10 00 |
| " Walsh | 10 00 |
| " T. J. Spratt | 20 00 |
| " Duffee | 15 00 |
| " Quilan | 10 00 |
| " Hartigan | 10 00 |
| Dean Murray | 20 00 |
| Mgr. Farrilly | 20 00 |
| Rev. J. O'Brien | 5 00 |
| Father McWilliams | 2 00 |
| " T. P. O'Connor | 10 00 |
| " McDonough | 10 00 |
| Vicar Gauthier | 30 00 |
| Father McDonald | 10 00 |
| Father Murtagh | 5 00 |
| Father Davis | 18 25 |
| Total | \$442 25 |

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