

via eterna est justus." In the front of the second compartment was a large medaglione of the Liberator in excellent basso relievo. It represented him breathing forth his pure soul, with the crucifix in his hands to his Creator. Above it, was the beautiful and appropriate text, "Pretiosa in conspectu Domini mors sanctorum ejus." At either side were paintings in chairo oscuro representing some of the most remarkable facts of the Liberator's life, one, for instance, represented him coming out in triumph from his glorious captivity. The "Help of Christians" was seen at one side, and O'Connell pointing to her. Beneath this painting were the words, "and in bonds she left him not," "et in vineulis non dereliquit eum." A profusion of wax lights burned round the image of the expiring father of his country. It is really out of my power to give your Lordship any idea of the enthusiasm which pervaded the bosoms of all classes of the citizens, and of all orders of the hierarchy, from the august Pontiff who fills the everlasting chair of St. Peter to the humblest acolyte on this occasion.

The spacious and noble temple of St. Andrew was crowded to excess. It was moving, consoling, and edifying in the highest degree to see with what recollection all assisted at the touching ceremonies which accompanied the celebration of the funeral service. Numbers offered up the holy communion for his eternal repose. Several monasteries of the pure and holy virgins of Christ, united their fervent prayers and communions to the suffrages of our holy mother the Church for the repose of him whose whole life was directed to the defence of religion and the rights of his country by the only weapons which that church approves of, those of peaceful and legitimate exertion. As to the funeral oration, I shall only say that the great orator, Father Ventura laid down in the most masterly manner the doctrine of the Church regarding the manner by which a Catholic people should seek a redress from unjust and oppressive laws; and this doctrine he most powerfully illustrated by the life of Ireland's Liberator. The applause with which this memorable piece of Christian oratory was received by all orders of the Roman people must afford the greatest consolation to Catholic Ireland, and will, no doubt, afford a fresh and irresistible stimulus to all to persevere with unceasing, but legitimate energy, to defend to the last the sacred liberties of the Church from the aggressions of heretical innovation, and to wrest the independence of their country from political degradation.

June 30—Another magnificent funeral took place to-day. It was got up by the Roman branch of the Association for the Propagation of the Faith. The Archbishop of Nicomedia pontificated. The Great Penitentiary, his Eminence Cardinal Castracani,

gave the absolution at the tomb, and Padre Ventura delivered a second funeral oration, or rather completed, with the most powerful effect, the discourse, to the first part of which he devoted about two hours on Monday. His Holiness most graciously gave the gorgeous vestments of his own Capella for both occasions. Oh, may God bless this great Pontiff! Oh, may Ireland by her love and devotion towards our holy religion, the true basis of all liberty; may she by her attachment to the See of Peter, that rock, against which the gates of hell shall never prevail; may Catholic Ireland, by her hatred for bloodshed and revolutionary doctrines, and by her attachment to peace, order, and piety, and her docility to the admonitions of her faithful clergy, ever show herself worthy of the respect which she has received in these days, from the people, clergy, and sacred Pontiff of the everlasting city! Oh, my dearest Lord, what a treasure do we not possess in our Holy Catholic faith! It is that Faith that has rendered our country the most renowned amongst the nations of the earth. It is the attachment of Ireland towards that Faith, it is because all her political struggles were based on the unerring teaching of that Faith, that has rendered her now the object of the sympathy, the respect, and the love of the entire world. Yes, Catholic Ireland shines forth now, even in the sufferings of her afflicted and trampled, but patient and religious children, an object incomparably more glorious and sublime than money making, scornful proud, heretical England, with all her wealth and dominions. Oh, how truly has the inspired writer said—"Justitia elevat gentem." Justice, the true justice, which true faith confers, can alone elevate and ennoble a nation, whilst on the contrary—miseros fecit homines peccatum—sin, wickedness, especially heresy, the greatest of all wickedness of which man can be guilty—it is that which renders a people miserable and degraded. From such degradation O may the God of St Patrick and of Pius IX. preserve the Island of Saints!

All Rome will be anxious to learn the account of the noble religious reception which awaits the venerated remains of the Liberator on their arrival in Ireland.

I send your Lordship the Pallede, which gives a brief sketch of Monday's funeral. A number of most beautiful poetical compositions have already appeared in Rome, in praise of the "Ero della Fede e dell'Irlanda," as our beloved Liberator is here styled.

Believe me, my dear Lord, with sentiments of the most profound respect and veneration, your Lordship's devoted servant,

TOBIAS KIRBY, D. D.

Right Rev. Dr. O'Higgins.