

The Kulturkampf

Roman Catholic Church, were naturally not included among those which the Centrum members proposed to incorporate in the Constitution of the Empire, and the proposal was of course attacked on this ground.¹ But nevertheless the Centrum, whose members have always posed as the champions of freedom, declared the motion to be the "magna charta" of religious peace in Germany and Bishop von Ketteler warned the House amid great excitement, that the rejection of the amendment would violate the religious convictions of Alsace.² But the eloquence of the Centrum counted for little, and as before it stood alone in support of the incorporation of the sections.³

The introduction of the Centrum into Landtag and Reichstag were events most displeasing to Bismarck.⁴ In both Houses

¹ Heinrich von Treitschke asked, "Where is the article from the Prussian constitution declaring 'Science and its teaching is free.' Where is the sentence permitting civil marriage?" Sten. Berichte Reichs., April 4, '71, Per. 1, Sess. i., Bd. 1.

² Speech of Bishop von Ketteler, Sten. Berichte Reichs., April 4th, '71, Per. 1, Sess. i., Bd. 1.

³ Division of April 4th, 223-54, Sten. Berichte, Reichs. ibid.

⁴ "On my return from France, I was not able to view the foundation of the party as other than a mobilization of Party against State," Bismarck in Prussian Abgeordnetenhaus, Jan. 30th, 1872. Sten. Ber. Abgeor. Ses. '71-72, Bd. 5. He also regarded it "as the most unheard-of event in political life that a confessional party should be formed in a political assembly." Ibid.