

be excluded from their councils. It asserts that it is not a secret, nor an oath-bound, society; and, as certain circles have adopted a form of pledge capable of giving colour to a contrary assertion, the following form is recommended for general adoption:

"I — solemnly pledge my sacred word and honour as a truthful and honest man, that I will labour with earnest zeal for the liberation of Ireland from the yoke of England, and for the establishment of a free and independent government on Irish soil; that I — will implicitly obey the commands of my superior officers in the Fenian Brotherhood; that I will faithfully discharge the duties of my membership, as laid down in the Constitution and By-Laws thereof; that I will do my utmost to promote feelings of love, harmony, and kindly forbearance among all Irishmen; and that I will foster, defend and propagate the aforesaid Fenian Brotherhood to the utmost of my power."

The statement that the Brotherhood is not a secret or oath-bound society, put forth to evade, if possible, the opposition of the Irish clergy, can hardly be reconciled with a subsequent admission that there is an "inner circle," an unnamed council of ten, who direct the proceedings of the Brotherhood, and who are not called upon "to make any report as to the methods and means by which they are endeavouring to carry forward the avowed ends of the Brotherhood." The Bishops of Pennsylvania and Chicago having denounced the Brotherhood, a deputation was appointed to wait on the latter, with whom a conversation took place, much too long to be given even in substance. The bishop, however, said that they had a most atrocious oath, and for that reason he had refused to send their contributions in aid of the poor in Ireland. That Archbishop McHale had accepted this money sent through another channel did not surprise him, on the contrary, it would have surprised him if he hadn't. The bishop further said that Mr. Smith O'Brien was opposed to such societies; that the leaders of the Brotherhood were unknown to him, that their actions "are not sufficiently before us to know what they are doing. *And we do not know what is done with the money raised in this society.*" The italics occur in the report. Finally, the bishop pronounced that the British government in Ireland is a legal government, and that it is a crime against the Church to attempt to overthrow it.

As to the sentiments and present position of the Irish race abroad and at home, we are told that it is pervaded by a profound love of Ireland, and "by an intense and undying hatred towards the monarchy and oligarchy of Great Britain, which have so long ground their country to the dust, hanging her patriots, starving out her people, and sweeping myriads of Irish men, women, and children off their paternal fields, to find a refuge in foreign lands," and that the best way of gratifying the hatred of Great Britain is, for Irishmen to cultivate brotherly feeling, good will, and mutual forbearance. Fenians who are not aware of the fact, will be glad to learn that the "men of Irish birth and lineage now dwelling on the American continent hold, at present, a more powerful position among the peoples of the earth, in point of numbers, political privileges, social influence and military strength, than was ever before held by any exiled portion, not alone of the Irish nation, but of any subjugated portion whatsoever;" while in the very same document they are told that, "in the hard battle of the exile's life the race is dying out, and the present moment is that in which the Irish element has reached its greatest development." The final