

the Russian church are slowly but surely converting the Polish peasant into an active anti-Russian political element.

In Russia it has been and is a penal offence to teach a Polish peasant anything in Polish, and many difficulties have been put in the way of teaching him anything at all. After the insurrection of 1863, Poland lost all its old privileges. From that time all teaching both in Universities and in schools had to be given in Russian. In 1863 the Russian liberals crushed Polish liberty in the name of patriotism. It is a sign of an evil and rebellious nature in Poland if a person happens to speak a language or profess a creed different from those of the ruling caste. In Warsaw every Polish shop-keeper is obliged to keep one Russian clerk. Since its absolute incorporation with the Russian Empire in 1868, Poland is known in Russian Officialdom as the 'Cis-Vistula governments. In Russia, labor unions are illegal. As a result in Poland, Polish laborers are entirely at the mercy of their Russian employers. Russia has broken every promise for the betterment of Poland that she made in the treaty of Vienna in 1815.

Poland and Ireland are very similar in some respects. Both were at one time great nations. Both were conquered by a great world-power. Both suffered untold hardships, and both preserved the Catholic Faith. The people of the two countries also have many traits in common. Both are brave and generous to a fault. Both have been divided amongst themselves in critical times of their history, and the exiles of Poland, like those of Ireland, have won fame and military glory for themselves and their country under the flags of foreign lands. It has been aptly said of the Pole that he possesses the urbanity and the delightful manner of the Frenchmen and the warm-hearted ways of the Irishman. Both Irish and Polish have suffered greatly, but when we compare the relative sufferings of the two countries as impartial judges, we must necessarily concede the fact that Poland has the distinction of being the more harshly treated. Ireland has undergone great hardships, I admit, but they have suffered no great hardships late in our day, as have the Poles. When Poland was in the throes of her last revolution, Ireland was gradually emerging from her ancient sufferings. We will just compare the two countries as they stand at present. Ireland is recognized as a Kingdom, and an integral part of the British Empire. She has a national party in the British House of Commons, which watches after the welfare of Ireland with searching eyes. Great reforms have been made for the welfare of the people, curtailing the power of the landlords, and enabling the tenants to practically own their land after some years. And, finally, it is but a matter