

# The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

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## MICHAEL DAVITT.

### A Letter Before Leaving for Australia.

#### SUPPORT FOR JUSTIN MCCARTHY.

To the Editor of the Freeman.

SIR—I enclose herewith a small subscription for the Parliamentary Fund, and I regret I am not able to multiply the amount a hundred times over for so deserving a purpose. I can only add my heartiest wishes for the success of Mr. Justin McCarthy's latest appeal to our people in behalf of the Irish Party.

Times are bad, it is true, and distress prevails in many parts where generous response has often come to similar appeals. Still I feel confident that the country will not allow its cause to suffer for want of that support which is essential to the safeguarding of the vital interests that are entrusted to the hands of the National representation.

Mr. McCarthy is not asking anything for the members of his party. He is only reminding our people that the work which they want to have done in Westminster must be carried on, and that this work can only be done through the means which the country places at the disposal of the Irish Party for that purpose.

There is only one alternative to a National and Democratic Party, depending upon the confidence and the support of the people both for its political mandate and working equipment, and that is a return to the men and the methods of the days when the landlords and other enemies of popular rights and reforms had themselves elected and sent to the Imperial Parliament as the "guardians" of Ireland's interests and the "champions" of her cause. If we prefer a National and Democratic representation, recruited from the ranks of our own people, to a body made up of the Sir George Bowyers, the Michael Henrys, and the O'Connor Dons of twenty years ago, we are bound by our fidelity to the movement which rescued our country from thinly-disguised enemies of her claims to liberty to stand by the Irish Party in its needs as well as in its triumphs.

One can easily understand why the Irish landlords, the Chamberlains, and the London Times take political comfort from speculations upon the possible failure of financial support being continued to Mr. McCarthy and his colleagues by the Irish people. We know also why Mr. Redmond and his friends would not grieve to see the country "cut off the supplies" to the funds of the Irish Party. There is no difficulty in comprehending all this. But we will have to go back to the criminal madness of the Communards of Paris in turning their arms against France when the Germans were at her gates to find a parallel for the action of those who, in attacking this Fund, virtually ask our people to fight the evictors, face our enemies in the House of Commons, and carry on the struggle for Home Rule and free land there and elsewhere by crippling the very party and movement which all Ireland's deadliest enemies are doing their level best to discredit and to kill!

Yours truly, MICHAEL DAVITT.  
March 29th, 1895.

## BISMARCK.

### Incidents of the Recent Birthday Festivities.

#### BLOOD AND IRON UNFORGOTTEN.

The sensation of the week hails from Germany. First, we had the Reichstag refusing to congratulate the aged Bismarck on his eightieth birthday, certainly a bold step to take, considering the tempest of imperial anger such a course was calculated to excite. This repulse was brought by the Catholic vote of the Centre party, which could not so easily stifle the bitter memories of the Kulturkampf. Whether it was politic is another question. It certainly was not according to the mind or the wish of the Holy Father, who long since had forgiven the Man of Blood and Iron. It was Bismarck who begged the Pope to arbitrate on the Carolines question, and the letter which he sent to his Holiness, in which he addressed the Supreme Pontiff as "Sire," is said to have given the Pope special gratification as an acknowledgment of the latter's sovereignty. Certainly the general feeling is that the Centre acted unfortunately. Apart from the Christian duty of charity, it should have been remembered that the veteran statesman was the creator of German unity.

The imperial wrath was immense. The despatch sent by the Kaiser to the ex-Chancellor simply brimmed over with indignation, and the speech which followed, with its appeal to the power of the sword, would seem to have set the deputies all quaking. A dissolution is inevitable, and the Socialists are a prey to all sorts of fears as to the expected policy of reaction and repression intended by the Emperor.

In France these exciting events are carefully watched. The Kaiser's appeal to "blood and iron," his presentation of a sword with the words Alsace-Lorraine emblazoned thereon to his grandfather's old friend, his glorification of the Franco-German war are all ominous signs calculated to excite misgiving. With such a changeable and warlike monarch it is impossible to forecast the future. To make matters worse, Prince Bismarck himself makes a speech in which he makes a comparison between Germany and France unfavorable to the latter country. "Do away with monarchy," he said, "and you reduce Germany to the state of France, which now has no rallying point." But surely if the republic has no throne, she has a flag, and the sight of the tri-color has never yet failed to excite French patriotism and enthusiasm. All this has aroused considerable indignation in French political circles, where it is not forgotten that the actual cause of the war was Bismarck, and Bismarck alone, and that to him they owe the loss of the two provinces of Alsace and Lorraine. The Paris Figaro winds up its appreciation of the situation with the following sentence: "The Emperor has committed a grave fault in thus identifying himself with the man who brought upon us so many misfortunes, and William II. has destroyed in one day all the fruit of the able and skilful policy pursued by him during the last two years."

## ST. MICHAEL'S.

### Holy Week Devotions at the Cathedral.

#### WELL ATTENDED SERVICES.

The various religious ceremonies of Holy Week were carried out in a very imposing manner at the cathedral. The office of Tenebrae, the singing of the Lamentations and the morning service on Easter Saturday had a most salutary effect on the minds of the pious worshippers. The large crowds which filled the church during the various sacred functions are sufficient evidence of the solid piety of this congregation. Coming in such large numbers, late and early, they have shown what great interest the religious ceremonies of the church evoke on the faithful, who are never more fully impressed by the grandeur and solemnity of Catholic worship than during the office of Holy Week. On Thursday His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto, attended by a very large number of the priests of the archdiocese, blessed the holy oils. After Mass the Blessed Sacrament was solemnly transferred to the Repository on the Blessed Virgin's altar. Needless to say the ladies Altar Society and the young ladies who assisted them must be highly congratulated on the rare good taste they have displayed in arraying the Repository. They had spared no pains in their work which was for them a labor of love, and their last reward will be the piety and devotion which the beauty of the Repository aroused in the hearts of those who visited the Blessed Sacrament. Tenebrae was chanted on Wednesday and Thursday evening. A special feature of this office was the harmonized chant of the Lamentations by Rev. Fathers Trayling, Coyle and Treacy. The sanctuary boys, under their able director, sang the various responses every evening and chanted the music of the Mass on Friday and Saturday. Their singing, during the past week, has reflected great credit on themselves and those who have directed their efforts. On Friday Mass of the Presanctified was sung by the Rev. Father Ryan, assisted by Father Rohleder and Mr. McGrand. Rev. Father Rohleder officiated at the Easter Saturday ceremonies. Solemn High Mass was celebrated on Easter Sunday in presence of the Archbishop in cope and mitre. Milard's Mass in B flat was rendered. The Offertory duo by Miss Murphy and Miss Elliott was very fine. After the last Gospel the Archbishop delivered an ideal Easter sermon. Concise, doctrinal and comprehensive, it was most appropriate to the unusually large audience which was largely composed of non-Catholics. In the evening the church was literally packed to the doors. Special musical Vespers were sung. Father Ryan preached on "Christ, Conqueror and King." During Vespers "O Cor Amoris" was sung by Mrs. Caldwell and Miss Murphy. The former lady also rendered the first part of the solo "Tantum Ergo."

Too much praise cannot be given to the ladies and gentlemen of the choir.

## The Real Danger.

A Protestant layman writes candidly to the Christian Cynosure, a Protestant journal of character, to say that the real danger to our American institutions does not lie in the Catholic Church, but in Protestantism. "It is no use," he says, "to go into long preliminaries, beat the devil about the bush, or talk all over the world of politics and theology; the simple well-known fact is there is a religious-political organization throughout the Union much more powerful than Roman Catholicism. Its affiliation embraces only about 700,000, yet it rules American Protestantism with a rod of iron. It is an absolute hierarchical despotism in which the mitre governs the crown. It is an organized empire in our republic."

The writer, of course, refers to the Masonic order and other secret societies. While Protestants rave and fume over the deference and homage paid by Catholics to their ecclesiastical leaders and teachers, they bow down servilely before "worshipful grand masters" and other dignitaries temporarily clothed in a little brief authority. "Men who go into spasms at the mention of a cardinal are swearing their very life and eternal allegiance to 'kings' and 'grand kings.'" He further alleges that over 500,000 of these secret society men hold public office in the United States by virtue of their membership. "Why," he asks, "do the A.P.A. papers condone all this imperialism, and entirely overlook its 'sublime princes' and most eminent commanders?"

This fearless Protestant writer calls attention to some very interesting and very ludicrous contrasts which he finds in studying the present situation. "Behold," he says, "a brave, bold editor penning leading editorials against beads, pictures and crossing one's self before the Catholic ecclesiastic, then watch that editor 'walking on the square,' throwing signs and dueguards at the 'worshipful master' or 'high priest,' or kneeling to the sun, moon and stars. A lecturer hurls his wit and sarcasm at Romish candles, crucifixes and holy water; the next night, as a Protestant pagan, he stands beside three tallow dips solemnly repeating the ritual of Sabianism, and parading on his faithful beast the emblems of nature worship. Would it not be more consistent for Protestantism to put down this organized empire of pagan despotism in its own bosom and rid our beloved republic of this most dangerous and deadly kingcraft and priestcraft before waving danger signals at shadows from continental Europe?"—Boston Republic.

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