

wicked phantom, leading to oceans of bloodshed, without any other possible result but that of wholesale and inevitable national ruin.

To begin and not to succeed, as we undoubtedly could not, would be answering the behests of our direst enemies. To begin and not to succeed, is what time and again blighted the hopes of Poland's nationality and the Southern States in our own time. To begin and not to succeed, is what blasted Ireland's hopes, and dyed her hill sides, her plains, and her cities with the gore of her deceived and persecuted people ten times over and over within the last seven hundred years.

In various forms and under every variety of pretext, resistance to English power in Ireland was resorted to under Henry the Seventh, Queen Elizabeth, the Commonwealth, William Prince of Orange, George the Third, Queen Victoria in 1848; and again last year, almost under my own eyes, on the occasion of my late visit to Ireland; and oh! for my country. And what was the result? I could have wept—I could have sunk into the earth with shame and mortification. To dignify such an insane movement with the name of rebellion, would be an insult to common sense, as it would be giving a false meaning to the expression. With all the show of an embryo republic, and the hubbub made, and the money paid in, and the assurances given that the power of England would be speedily crushed, and her empire in ruins, there was no rebellion—no not even a decent faction fight worthy of that name. Five or six cowardly assassinations of Ireland's Catholic children, including my ever to be lamented friend Mr. McGee—several women and children blown up,—a few unoffending citizens of Canada shot on their own soil, are all that can be boasted of. After all said and done, this is the only advance made towards the avowed object of overthrowing British power in Ireland. And it is so, not because the Irish are not brave, and in a certain sense patriotic as ever, but because the wiser and more numerous portion of them, who had something to lose, ever looked on the physical force scheme as utter madness, and most fortunately and most correctly decided on the better expedient of endeavouring to right their country's wrongs by other and more feasible means.