

JULY 19, 1896.

purpose in preserving there the faith. O Ireland! perhaps thou thyself didst not realize the great mission that God was opening before thee. Not for thyself alone did He preserve in thy bosom the faith. It was in view of the great power and the great mission of England throughout the world that God preserved the faith in Ireland.

"To-day, despite the schism of the sixteenth century, owing to the leaven on English soil itself, and owing to the strong, steadfast faith of Ireland, wherever the English flag is lifted upward—and it is lifted upward from the Arctic to the Antarctic, from the Pacific to the Atlantic and, further yet, through India and Australia—wherever it is lifted upward there is beneath it a representation of Holy Catholic Church (cheers), and there are elements which, blessed by God's grace and properly worked by human agencies in the Church, save from absolute heresy and schism these great countries, and which will with years—we pray it may be so—contribute to make the great influence of the British Empire an influence on behalf of the Holy Catholic Church.

"So we Catholics, as we look forward to the great future opening in the world to the English speaking peoples, are hopeful. I can understand, and very well, gentlemen, how you rejoice when you look forward to the future, for not only as sons of England, but, as you are sons of Holy Church you can rejoice. (Cheers.) And with the extent of this British influence goes to-day liberty for religion. The Catholic Church to-day thanks England for that liberty. The Church to-day is allowed full permission to develop all the strength within her. It is a free battle between the Church and infidelity, and we who have faith in the divine sap coursing the veins of Holy Church are not afraid of the result in years to come. (Loud cheers.) God is with His Church. His arm is not shortened to-day, and the power that brought England into the fold one thousand five hundred years ago is able to bring into the fold of the Catholic Church to-day England herself and all the great countries in distant oceans subject to her influence. (Cheers.)

A POSITION OF RESPONSIBILITY. "But, gentlemen, your position as English Catholics brings home to you your responsibilities. I do not know if anywhere in the world to-day I could address a body of Catholics upon whose shoulders I see descending such weighty responsibility as this very assembly which I am addressing now. It is your mission, few in numbers as you may be and weak in many respects as you may admit to yourselves, it is your mission to cooperate with God's providence to bring back holy faith throughout this island and to make English influence throughout the world serve the cause of Holy Church. The mission of English speaking Catholics is immense. God has provided them I may say even with many natural dispositions required for this mission. As Catholics you must put into the service of religion those noble qualities which have made your race conquering and triumphant in the world. You must have in the service of religion that great personal initiative so peculiar to your race which tells each man to do his very best, which tells each man to seek out wherein he may serve its great purpose. You must put into the service of religion that aggressiveness which has characterized the English people throughout their history, and that perseverance which never stops before obstacles, and to which so much of your victory is due. It is well in many respects that the future of the Church in so many countries to-day depends upon the Catholics of England having in the service of religion those great qualities which in so many ways have made their country so glorious and so triumphant.

make a step forward and examine into other doctrines and practices of the Church which they did not see at first. (Cheers)

"Let the Catholic laity then be vigilant and zealous for work in favor of religion; let the Catholic laity be exemplary in every way, and one thing which the laity alone can give and which is so necessary to-day is—the public influence of religion, the public influence of the Church. Men judge, as I remarked, by what they see. If you, the Catholic laity, remain on one side quiet, merely saying your prayers, no matter how well you say them, if you do nothing else the great British Empire will move along without you; will move along without being influenced in the least by you; will move along believing that you are half dead, or believing that you take no interest whatsoever in the welfare of the mighty Empire. And if I do not mistake much, the Englishman likes to see people at work for England. (Cheers.) The Englishman likes to see tangible results, he likes a fair courageous fighter, and if you come forward with the full courage of your convictions determined to do the best for your Church and for your country, he will say: Well, you are a good fellow and you ought to have your rights. (Cheers.)

REGARDING AMERICA. "I speak now, of course, of Catholics in general in English-speaking countries, because I was going to say I noticed this among our own people in America. Catholics, owing to the circumstances of the past, owing to the ostracism which declared against them socially and politically, got into the habit of being very quiet and believing really that they were not called upon to go right out into full daylight and take part with others in all great public, national, social, moral and intellectual movements. (Cheers.) I in my small sphere preach to Catholics in America: You must be public spirited, you must do your best, first of all to show yourselves the most ardent Americans, the most devoted citizens, and you should be ready, if the opportunity offers, to put yourselves forward in public life, so as to be able to serve your country and to serve it honestly, and there should be no intellectual movement, there should be no literary club, there should be no moral reform movement going on in this country without Catholics being largely represented in the membership. I am discouraged whenever I find in any place a good movement for the betterment of humanity, for the elevation of citizens in general, unless I discover Catholic names in the membership. Of course, I am speaking especially of America, because so far as I know you have in England that public spirit. In this respect I know the president of this meeting does his duty (cheers). The Catholic world rejoiced when the wires spread the news that he had taken into his hands the duties of Postmaster General (cheers) I have seen but little of London, but what I have seen has encouraged me. I visited one of the greatest literary clubs and found Catholics there. And I know your literature, and I find Catholic names there also.

"So the situation is hopeful. I can only say: May it be better yet. I can only say of every great movement of citizenship: Let the Catholics be more numerously represented than ever. Let no Catholic remain away in his little corner, on his little domain, thinking he is doing well by taking care just of himself and of his family around him. And let the newspapers of the day, the great reviews, put forth Catholic names. It is said that the pen is mightier than the sword—a common expression, but it can well be repeated because of the truth it represents. If you wish to know what will bring influence to England, it is the ideas that will go abroad from England. Everything has been done to make it easy for ideas to travel the world over. You say anything worth being said in London, and away in St. Paul and San Francisco to-morrow morning we will read it. You write anything deserving to be read, and we on our Western prairies will find the book or the pamphlet or the review. And what we say in America our friends will find it in Australia and in all the islands of Oceania, all through India and China. Why, what a temptation, what an irresistible temptation it is for English Catholic talent to produce it carry it over the world is the omnipotent and omnipresent English language. We Catholics the world over are influenced by you. You are after all the mother country of English speaking lands. You are here near the great seat of the government of the Empire, and you must so work and so think and so act, that with all the influences of the Empire going out from London and England, Catholic influences will go out with them, and then it will be well for the Church, it will be well the world.

"I am honored this evening in being received by you as an American, as a Bishop from the Mississippi, and His Eminence Cardinal Vaughan, in a letter to our chairman, kindly makes allusion to the fact and expresses a wish that close union and deep affection may always unite the Catholics of the United States and the Catholics of England. We Catholics of America owe much to you. Our first Catholic colonists under the banner of Lord Baltimore were from here. The first citizens on the soil of America who declared openly for religious liberty were English Catholics, and throughout the whole history of the Church these English Catholics of

when a Bishop was to be consecrated for the Church of the United States, for the Church which to-day possesses nearly one hundred Bishops, he came to England to have holy oils poured upon his head (cheers) Our Catholic literature is the same, our language is the same. A thousand ties bind us. We desire as American citizens your friendship. We are willing as American citizens to accord our own. We desire friendship between England and America. We hold out mutual hands. (Cheers) We hold out mutual hands of friendship between these two great countries. Our commercial interests are the same, and while so closely united in friendly relations as English men and Americans, let us be united doubly so in close friendship, in close links of love as English Catholics and as American Catholics. (Cheers)

OUTLOOK IN AMERICA. "Thank Providence the position of the Catholic Church in the United States to-day is most encouraging. We have received accessions from every country in the world; every country has sent its emigrants to us. "We have received, as I said, Catholics from England itself, and they are now coming to us from Bohemia and Poland and the Slavic regions of Austria, from Italy and even from Lebanon itself. And with all these different accessions we are not a divided, divided Catholicism. America has the wonderful talent of assimilating all the different peoples that come to her, and of making out of them a great race for the future. We are willing, as I said, we are determined to be friendly with you, but also rivals in this work of friendliness for doing great things for God and for humanity. (Cheers)

"And so the Catholics of all nationalities thrown together in America unite, become Americans and work well together. And with all these accessions from emigration we have, thank God, a goodly accession through conversions, the number of conversions differing from State to State and from city to city according to the influence of the Catholic Church in each and every place. We number today, I safely say, nearly thirteen millions. The official statistics given in the directory state we are barely ten; that we are about ten. But I am about sure with others who have carefully examined the case that we are fully twelve or thirteen millions—about one-sixth of the whole population exclusive of our new brethren who are coming into our fold from the West Indies (laughter and cheers) What is most remarkable during the last ten or fifteen years in the Church of America is this, that the Catholics are growing in social and civil influence. Necessarily in the past they were in large numbers newcomers and comparatively poor, and the prejudice did arise to some extent that Catholics were not thoroughly American. Well, we went to work, and for the last ten or fifteen years we have shown ourselves to American that all have said: Why, the best Americans are Catholics in peace and in war! (Cheers) And I would render this tribute to my American non-Catholic citizens that they are fair-minded, that they are honorable in their dealings, that they are neighborly, and the prejudice of the past has almost totally disappeared—certainly has disappeared in public life. (Cheers) We have had a few years ago a Catholic in the Cabinet; we have two Catholics on the Supreme Bench to-day, and so throughout all the great public life our Catholics are represented. It remains with ourselves, I say that of my country, it resolves to conquer position and honor. The American people will only help them to gain all that they deserve. (Cheers)

"We watch with the deepest interest the Catholic movement among you, gentlemen. We derive courage from what you do, and, of course, it will be a great honor for us if you watch what we are doing and if sometimes you come among us to see what kind of people we are. Let these links of friendship between English Catholics and American Catholics be cemented; we shall do our share; we shall come from far to see you, and we trust that from time to time you will come to see us. And when you come to America see the Catholics there; go out and see the great workings of the American people. For you to do that you must cross over many miles, but we will bring you in all comfort across our prairies. Yes, a great mission is open before us. I say before us, for certainly the influence in the future of Great Britain covers many, many, thousand miles of land and sea. And when God in His Providence has opened such vast areas to these countries He has His reasons for it. The new world era is coming to us as an era of liberty under authority, and of authority in the plenitude of liberty.

"God has reserved for the twentieth century to speed across the world the sweet fragrance of liberty. God has reserved for the twentieth century the elevation of the people into the full enjoyment of their rights in realizing the full sweets of liberty. That is the future of the whole world. And what are the two countries that lead in this great development of liberty in authority and of authority in liberty? Great Britain and the United States. God bless them both!" (Cheers)

The Duke of Norfolk moved a vote of thanks to the Archbishop for his "deeply interesting and most important address." The motion was seconded by Viscount Llandaff and the vote was given by acclamation.

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