

became the cause of the Catholic Church. Thence among the names illustrious in Irish history of men who stood foremost in the ranks of the nation, and holding the very first place was Gerald Fitzgerald, who, though not an Irishman by descent, was an Irishman by birth, and fought against Henry VIII. in the cause of Ireland's freedom and Ireland's faith. Nearly the whole of Leinster was wasted with fire and sword, the clans were put down, and then the great treaty of peace held on until four years later when another man came to the front—a name upon which I love to rest—a man who has been abused and calumniated by English writers—even by the latest of those writers—a man who came over here to try to persuade the American people that the Irish were the most God abandoned people upon the face of the earth. (Applause.) I hope that the next mission he undertakes will be a greater success than his present mission was to America. (Applause.)

#### THE SECOND FAMOUS NAME.

The man of whom I speak was the celebrated Shaun O'Neill. He was called Shaun the Proud.

Now, my friends, I need not remind you that among the descendants of ancient Milesias, the first of our bravest and best was the House of O'Neill of Alston. In 1551 Conn O'Neill went to England and was created Earl of Tyrone by Henry VIII. God bless the mark. When he came home to Ireland after having paid homage to the English monarch, the very first question asked by his people was :

“Who gave you leave to do that? You are an Irish King. You are equal to any English monarch. You are of a far more noble and ancient family, who have never disgraced their name. What on earth brought you to resign your sovereignty, and barter away the honor and freedom of the Irish people?” He was not able to give a satisfactory answer. His son stepped out from the ranks and drew his ancient sword in the name of Ireland, and in the name of the Catholic religion; and the very first of the great heroes that stand forth conspicuously in the history of Ireland's struggle with the treacherous and tyrannical King, is the name of Shaun O'Neill. (Applause.)

They tried to purchase him, but they found England had not gold enough to corrupt that true-hearted man, and for fifteen years he fought the whole army of England and asserted his sovereignty for ten years