

And in the home of his heart's best devotion the name of Thomas D'Arcy McGee was greeted with cheers by his countrymen. The great Repeal meetings in Ireland gave the government of the day a great deal of uneasiness, while Daniel O'Connell was looked upon with aversion if not with actual dread. At his call thousands and tens of thousands could be, and often were, assembled at any given point to hear the greatest and most successful political agitator the world ever saw. Monarchs and kings can command with the force at their disposal, the attention and submission of their subjects; but Daniel O'Connell's tongue was the only force at his command, and such was the power with which he wielded that two-edged sword, that with it alone he controlled millions of people who had faith and trusted in him; and such was his influence that he could at any moment lead to the field of battle a million of his people; such was not his object nor did he ever, during his long political life, even recommend any other course than that of peace and recourse to legal measures only to secure the great object of his labours. It is needless to say that the government was anxiously on the watch for an opportunity to get rid of O'Connell at least for a time—if they could not manage to send him *away for life*, this being the desire of the government. The government does not take long to make an opportunity; and as was to be expected, O'Connell would be tried; he would be convicted, as a matter, of course, the government of that day in Ireland knew well how to manage Jury trials, and he would be imprisoned. The news of his probable imprisonment aroused the deep indignation of all classes of society at home and abroad; it was an admission of weakness on the part of the government. The news sped far and wide, and whilst a cry of despair, at the probable loss of their leader, arose from the hearts of the millions of Irishmen at home, the cry was taken up in America by the Irish there, and backed up by the hypocritical Republicans who pretended friendship for Ireland and Irishmen, while they were in reality only striving as the mortal enemies of England, to madden their Irish fellow citizens or if need be to their own destruction, to satisfy personal hatred of Great Britain. On none did the sad news fall with a greater force than on our young Irish editor in Boston. At all the public meetings, he spoke with deep feeling, whilst his burning condemnation, in the columns of the "*Boston Pilot*," of the outrage attempted to be offered to his great countryman, and to the cause of which he was the life and soul, produced a most profound sensation. Its effect was not confined to the United States and British America; it was deeply felt in Great Britain and Ireland, the leading men of the day read it with attention. So deep was the impression made on the mind of Mr. now Sir John Gray, who

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