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OF BRITISH FRIENDLY AT

nd, exiled from cracy and legisr worse, to that charnel of government institututions, the poor-house; our countrymen torn from their families and friends, and hurled in droves into the prison pens of England and Ireland, our country subjected to a foreign tyranny which disfranchises the masses of the Irish people, and makes poverty and misery the sad rule of their condition, covering our fair land with paupers' graves and wretched hovels, eliciting from the liberal minds of England expressions of shame for the government and indignation for the people.

"We have taken up the sword to strike down the oppressor's rod, to deliver Ireland from the tyrant, the despoiler, the robber; we have registered our oaths upon the altar of our country in full view of Heaven, and sent up our vows to the throne of Him who inspires them. Then looking about us for the enemy, we find him here—here in your midst where he is most vulnerable and convenient to our strength; and have sworn to stretch forth the armed hand of Ireland and grapple with him. The battle has commenced, and we pledge ourselves by all the sacred memories of struggling liberty to follow it up at any cost to either of the two alternatives—the absolute political independence and liberty of Ireland or the demolition of our armies.

"We have no issue with the people of these provinces, and wish to have none but the most friendly relations. Our weapons are for the

oppressors of Ireland.

"Our blows shall be directed only at the power of England. Her privileges alone, shall we invade, not yours. We do not propose to divest you of a solitary right you now enjoy. We will assail and assume only the rights that are claimed and enjoyed by the Government of Great Britain, the right to make her American possessions, the field, and base of operations in a war against an enemy. We come to instal ourselves in her prerogatives, and turn them against her in a war for Irish freedom. We are here, neither as marauders nor robbers, for plunder or spoliation. We are here as the Irish army of liberation; the friends of liberty against political subjection, of freedom against despotism, of democracy against aristocracy, of the people against their oppressors, of the ballot against the privileges of class, of progress and development against might and wrong, to conduct this contest according to the laws known to honourable warfare, in a manner worthy of the high object we aim for, and the sublime sentiments that actuate us. In a word, our war is with the armed power of England, and not with the people, not with these provinces, against England upon land and sea, until Ireland is free. And all who raise an arm to defend her, to frustrate or defeat us belong to the common enemy, and as such will be dealt with. As we know how to recognize the services of our friends, so also do we know how to punish the depredations of our foes. Our work for Ireland accomplished, we leave to your own free ballots to determine your national and political standing and character, and shall rejoice to see, and assist to make, these almost limitless colonies spring from the foot of a foreign throne, as free and independent, as proud as New York, Massachusetts, or Illinois that yearning for liberty, and aspiration after national independence, which swells the breast of every true son of every land, to your own manliness, we leave these questions for settlement, confident that the dwarfed development of your vast resources and natural wealth under the chilling influence of English supremacy, in wretched contrast with the national dignity and stupendous material prosperity of your neigh-