

devise. Irishmen, many of themselves being themselves dupes, and others doubtless initiated to some extent, if not altogether, were employed as secret emissaries. Some of these worked in the United States, others in Ireland, and more in England and Scotland, wherever bodies of the Irish people had aggregated. The irreligious character of the institution was so veiled by hypocrisy as to preserve it for a time from detection, and secure those who were allured to it from the salutary and counteracting influence of the Catholic clergy.

It is, therefore, not astonishing that many Irishmen, Catholic and Protestant, most of them good, kindhearted, patriotic, sympathetic, and honest, joined the organization in the United States, and in Ireland and England. Rather is it wonderful that the number of the dupes has not been greater.

But the American politicians—the wire-pullers in all this puppet show, have had no desire for a settlement of the Alabama claims: neither did they desire Irish Independence, or intend doing anything to effect it. As reasonably might a merchant be expected to desire the destruction of his stock-in-trade before he had effected an insurance. Therefore, when Reverdy Johnson, as United States Ambassador, agreed with the British Secretary of State upon a fair basis of settlement for the Alabama claims, the treaty was forthwith attacked and repudiated. Johnson, honest, guileless, and conscientious man, was not of the initiated; he belonged not to the party, and supposed it was his duty to act honestly for the settlement of a dispute which threatened to involve two great countries in war. The foolish old man; his conscientiousness ruined him.

So in Ireland, the candidates at the late elections who were favorable to the Gladstone Government, which had been constructed on the basis of settling the Irish difficulties and removing Irish grievances, were opposed with the utmost violence by Fenianism.

Hence also came the ridiculous but painful farce of electing poor O'Donovan (Rossa) for Tipperary, while he was pining in prison, undergoing punishment as a treason convict.

Fully in accordance with the purpose which I have intimated, have been the results of Fenianism, and the movements thereof. It has in no wise improved the condition of Ireland or of the Irish people: quite the reverse. It increased discontent, interfered with industrial avocations, created heart-burnings and feuds amongst the people, eradicated from the minds of hundreds the principles of Christianity, and imbued them with infidelity instead.

In America great things were to be done. From America great succor, overwhelming aid was to go; so said the emissaries from America. But when the day of tribulation overtook those who had yielded too eagerly and unwisely to the charms of the serpent, America, alas, did nothing, great or small; nor did succor go. The duped had to abide the consequences of their own indiscreetness, and of martial law brought upon them by the heralds of freedom from America. The public mind in England has been agitated, panic-stricken at times by the secret plottings and midnight workings of the brotherhood, exciting vague fears and terrible