

A Protestant Patriot.

REV. MR. STEVENSON, who received a thrilling ovation, said—When I heard the distinguished lecturer with characteristic modesty throwing himself upon the indulgence of this large assemblage, and hoping that because they were Cork people, and considering his past services, that they might bear with him for the very poor lecture that he was going to give them, I must confess that I did not make sufficient allowance for his modesty, and I expected to hear a dry sort of lecture, giving a good deal of statistics about the Irish race, their numbers, their position, their lives in America and Australia, and what they have done, and what they are capable of doing (laughter). I was agreeably surprised at the lecture, for it highly deserved the name of lecture, and an excellent lecture (hear, hear). It was poetic in glowing and expressive enthusiasm, and yet when we read it, as I hope we may be able to read it at full length in the Press of this city, it will bear careful weighing—it was philosophic, sober, true (applause). You, Mr. Chairman, have in too flattering terms acquainted the meeting with the reason why I was called upon to second this resolution. It appears to be the wish of Nationalists in this country, as far as they have opportunity, to show that it was an utter calumny that there is intolerance in the Irish people (cheers). Even without this consideration before me as a reason why it was thought that I should accept the request to second this vote of thanks—which I need not say it would give me very great pleasure to do—still I would not accede to it if I had not been told at the same time that a few minutes would suffice; and I have, therefore, great pleasure in simply seconding now this vote of thanks to the lecturer (cheers).