

to be expected. Mr. Nevins regarded America as having more than one claim on his affections and love. It had been the field of triumphs and successes ; the land that afforded scope to his genius and energy. He saw in it the country that gave to multitudes of his fellow-countrymen the hospitality, liberty and religious freedom, denied them at home, and which alone an Irishman requires to make his life a success. But above all it consoled him to see the great influence these Irish emigrants wielded in raising the Catholic Church to a flourishing condition in America.

Though Mr. Nevins held America in high esteem he bestowed his greatest love on the land of his birth ; but even in this devotion he judged from a religious view-point. An intimate friend says, "there were countries larger, freer, richer, but to his mind there was no nation under the sun where the greatest of all blessings :—that of a happy death—was so easily attainable as the old land of St. Patrick. He gloried in the steadfastness of Ireland to the old faith, and used to say with pride, "all other things might be torn from her bleeding hands but faith could never be wrenched from her grasp".

The depth and purity of his patriotism might be judged by the scheme which he entertained, and put into execution as far as he was able, for improving the condition of the Irish people. His idea was that the Irish-Americans should return and reside in the old country, using their wealth for the benefit of the needy people who were less fortunate than themselves. "The money" he said he said which would thus be circulated would counterbalance to a great extent the drain made by absentee landlords. He frequently tried to persuade other Irishmen to take up the scheme, and he set this example himself by returning and taking up property. That his idea was as feasible as it was noble and worthy may be best judged by the success which attended his own efforts.

To the unfortunate he always proved "the friend in need", and especially so to the poor and humble. He gave with such a cheerful humility that his act went straight to the heart of the poor recipient of his munificence. No wonder that he was called, the friend of the