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Catholic Record.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JAN. 1, 1887.

A GLORIOUS TRIUMPH.

We have the hearty satisfaction of announcing, just as we go to press, that Mr. Morat has literally swept the Province, and that his majority in the new legislature will aggregate about thirty.

THE NEW YEAR AND THE OLD.

We begin to day a New Year, and a happy year we trust it will be for this entire country and for the whole human family. The year that has just closed has been indeed an eventful one. Europe has been in a peculiarly perturbed state, and the New Year may witness the bursting of the volcano whose rumblings were so often heard in 1886. Russia is in a specially unsettled condition, but her statesmanship and diplomacy, being of a higher order than that of any of the other great powers, she has not fallen into any hasty action in the development of her policy, European or Asiatic. To reach and acquire Constantinople, to assail and overcome the unspeakable Turk, these are the main purposes of Russian policy in Europe. To obtain a strong footing in Afghanistan, and by this means open a road to India's wealth, would likewise seem to be the present design of the Russian movement in Asia. The development of this policy, the furthering of this design, must inevitably lead to one of the most gigantic struggles the world has ever yet witnessed. Russia or Britain must perish in the contest for supremacy in the east.

In Britain the year has been a very remarkable one, even for that country. A change of government took place at the very opening of the twelfth month. Mr. Gladstone superseding Lord Salisbury as Premier. The Home Rule Bill for Ireland, introduced by Mr. Gladstone, on the 8th of April last, will forever mark his Premiership and make his administration memorable. This bill was rejected, and on an appeal to the country the administration sustained a reverse. Still the Conservative Opposition did not attain a majority, and succeeded to power only on the suffrage of the Liberal Unionists, who are themselves less numerous in the present than they were in the last Parliament. No doubt is entertained by thinking men, not alone in Britain but throughout the world, that Mr. Gladstone's remedy for Irish wrongs and for British misadventures and misfortunes must be speedily applied or the empire suffer untold dangers and calamities.

In France the year was troubled and turbulent. The anti-religious policy of the radical legislative majority took more definite shape, and a very offensive School Law was passed looking to a more complete effacement than ever of religious influences from the educational system of the country.

In Germany the year was peaceful and fairly prosperous. The Government seems more and more disposed, notwithstanding its hesitancy as to details to come to a lasting arrangement with the Vatican as to the status of the Catholic Church in its Prussian dominions. The relations between France and Germany have been far from friendly, and the year closed on both countries ready at a moment's warning to rush into each other's throats. The American of Dec. 11th said of the situation in both those countries:

France and Germany through their military authorities have been comparing arms, and each finds the other far superior in effective force and in the outlay made to secure effectiveness. Each of these countries is crushed by the weight of military taxes and forced military service. Yet each cries for more men, bigger guns, a costlier military budget. Von Moltke tells the Reichstag, that he sees a great danger opening in Central Europe, in which Germany will be engulfed unless great sums of money and new corps be voted for additional defence. And all these costly preparations for a possible war are on account of a couple of insignificant provinces, which are not worth a tenth of the money wasted on soldiers, artillery and forts since 1871, by both countries. Never were accessions of territory found more costly.

It is impossible to avoid having some sympathy with the Social Democrats of Germany, in view of these ruinous follies of Bismarck, Von Moltke and their cohorts. They are the only party in Germany which profess no agreement with the false patriotism of conquest and forced retention of provinces. Were they to come into power they would leave Alsace and Lorraine to follow their predilections, which, after fifteen years of annexation, are still decidedly French. And they would abolish the military conscription which wastes the best years of the lives of young men in the infantry and the vices of the barracks and drives myriads across the Atlantic to escape the conscription.

Both countries are certainly suffering greater evils from the armed peace they now have than a sanguinary war could inflict. The struggle that must take place before long between these powerful nations will be one truly desperate, but it will solve the future of each as a great power.

Italy has been seeking to play at radicalism on a smaller scale than the French republicans adopted. The government of the peninsula is literally led by the nose by the Masonic coterie, and is as ridiculous an administration as to day exists anywhere. The situation of the Holy Father is growing daily more and more painful, and little doubt can be entertained that the Italian government convulses at the settled purpose of the radical atheists to drive him from the eternal city.

Events elsewhere in Europe do not call for any particular mention, except, perchance, the crisis in Bulgaria, which is, however, but part of the great Eastern drama in which Russia and England bear principal parts. Coming to America we see our republican neighbors in the full enjoyment of the blessings of free government. The Labor problem has come up for prominent and active discussion with much benefit to the interests of the toiling masses. The grinding tyranny of monopoly must soon receive a check that will bring about an equalization in some measure of the earnings of rich and poor. The latter at present pay the taxes, build the houses, and construct the roads of the country. It is not consonant with our ideas of civilization that they should be reduced to the helplessness and misery of slaves. The toilers are free men and the commonwealth must see that they become so fully in fact, as they are now in name. The Cleveland administration has suffered severely during the twelfth month past in public estimation, as will be seen by the comparison between the Congress elected last November and that returned in November, 1884.

The next House of Representatives, (omitting the vacant seat in Rhode Island), will contain 168 Democrats, 152 Republicans, and 4 Independents, giving the Democrats a clear majority of 12. The present House contains 183 Democrats, 140 Republicans and 2 Greenbackers.

What a falling off is here! The Boston *Pitt* explains the weakness of the Cleveland administration:

After a faithful fight for twenty years, the old party came naturally to the top; yet instead of a continued cheer and a hearty confidence in its leader, we have gloomy faces, mutterings of discontent, and a prospect that the healthy political growth of a generation will be lost.

It is true that Republican and Mugwump papers and orators are loud in support of President Cleveland's policy; but we believe that the cordial support of the Democratic majority of the American people could just as well have been secured; and it would be healthier as well as more satisfactory.

The men who applaud loudest are those who were strongest to throw discredit and distrust on the Democratic party and its "dangerous classes" for years past.

It is bad Democracy to believe that because a man inherits a million dollars and grows up to a college degree, he is an honest, safe, or better citizen, or a truer friend to republican liberty than a hardworking farmer, mechanic or tradesman.

The scholar in politics is no better, but is apt to be worse, than the working man. Letters never made a man love liberty if the love were not born in him; and the wealthy surroundings of "the cultured class" tend rather to develop a dislike of liberty for common people.

The safety of this Republic and of all republics depends on the common men and women; and the danger ahead will come from our aristocratic and plutocratic, as it has come to other countries.

We are sorry to see that Mr. Cleveland's Administration has set the common people farther from power, and raised the aristocratic element higher in America than it has ever stood before. Compared with the Administrations of Lincoln, Grant, Hayes, or Garfield, our present Government seems less democratic and more aristocratic. The wives of wealthy Cabinet ministers are allowed to completely set the "tone" of society about the President, and this tone is exclusively "upper class." This is a bad sign. Such people have not sense enough to see the drift of their own conduct, which is as vulgar as it is demoralizing. They have even been the demoralizing dry rot in a republic. President Cleveland ought to set them back as quietly as the great unostentatious Lincoln would have done.

In every State, the old fashioned, plain, faithful Democrats, the honored by the people, have been not aside from council and influence, and new men of a new order, not Democrats either with a capital D or a small one, have been taken into the confidence of the Administration.

The homespun Democrat was not fit to be trusted; he was coldly passed and

his place filled by the "scholar" and aristocrat in politics, who was looking after his own and his class interests, and had no hesitation in deserting the sinking Republican ship."

Add to this Mr. Bayard's weak, inexplicably weak, and tortuous foreign policy and you have the picture of Democratic incompetency complete. We have ourselves no doubt whatever, that unless the Democrats choose, in 1888, an exceptionally strong candidate, there is in store for them a complete and disastrous rout.

In Canada, the year just ended was one of much violent political agitation, the *Mail* newspaper seeking to bring about a war of creeds and races. Exciting Provincial elections occurred in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, and Manitoba, bringing about many important changes in the composition of the legislatures of these Provinces. It is to be hoped that the Dominion elections soon to take place will close the long period of political excitement which has distracted and demoralized our country. Canada has but little time, if she be true to her own interests, to give to the turbulence of political agitation, which, unduly maintained, is the curse of a country. The great event of 1887, was from the Canadian national standpoint, the opening of that gigantic enterprise, the Canadian Pacific Railway. The Canadian Pacific has now 3,348 miles in operation and in 1885 carried 1,427,367 passengers. From the statistical abstract and record for 1886 we learn that the distances on the main line are now as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|
| Montreal to Callander..... | 344 |
| Callander to Port Arthur..... | 641 |
| Port Arthur to Winnipeg..... | 424 |
| Winnipeg to Savona's Ferry..... | 1,267 |
| Savona's Ferry to Port Moody..... | 213 |
| Total..... | 2,893. |

1,908 miles of this having been built in four years and nine months. By adding the length of branch lines a total of 3,324 miles is obtained, while the distance from Montreal (St. Martin's Junction) to Quebec, 159 miles, increases the number of miles to 3,483.

The Canadian Pacific is a work in the completion of which every Canadian can take a pride. A valued periodical states: "The reasons why the Canadian Pacific Railway deserves the prominent position it occupies are easily stated. They are—

1. The national importance of the railway—not only to Canada but to the British Empire.

2. Its vastness, the difficulties which were encountered, the rapidity with which the work was carried on, and the thoroughness with which it is completed.

The effect it must have in changing the centre of gravity of the commerce of North America internally and with trans-oceanic countries.

The desirability of railway communication throughout the provinces was, as a broad principle, pretty generally conceded by all grades of politicians. It was merely the question of how long this desirable end should be delayed, and whether to lavish a railway policy—in point of time—would or would not be injurious to the country in the main. It resolved itself into advancement step by step as the country west of Winnipeg became settled, for a bold effort, which should at once accomplish that which was sought for by those who conceived the scheme, the connection of British Columbia with Canada, and at the same time give the country the benefit of through traffic from ocean to ocean, in addition to the purely local traffic which the first alternative would only have permitted.

The question was one that lacked not discussion, and the more advanced policy was carried to a successful issue. Politically and commercially, we can say to-day, the wisdom of the course adopted—Canada is in a position to reap at once the advantages which, varied to a degree, are found in the development of the natural resources of thousands of miles beyond her reach. A new market is found for the products and industries of the east; a new field is opened to the enterprise of her youth, who, instead of having to serve others in the more crowded east, can now serve themselves in the west, and send the fruits of their labor to the older provinces and abroad. The wealth of the wheat regions of the North-West, the highly favored cattle ranges, the mineral resources in the intervening country, and in the mountains, may be reduced to the profit of the country, and help materially to make it what it is bound to be, a "land of plenty." And we have already felt the touch of the Orient trade. We have seen teas from Japan and China landed in Canada, carried overland through Canada, delivered in Canada, and, furthermore, forwarded to cities throughout the United States from Canada. Why should we not be in a position to commence to day a profitable commerce, rather than that it should be postponed for years—perhaps for many years?

Canada to-day, thanks to the Canadian Pacific Railway, is one country from ocean to ocean. We have now in the Dominion eight distinct Provincial organizations. We here enjoy Home Rule to the very fullest and happiest extent. Our country is blessed with a beautiful climate, with the richest mineral, agricultural and forest resources—with a hardy, generous and intelligent population. We have the finest railway system, and the grandest waterways in the world. Our future then must, if we are equal to the task imposed on us, be one of self-reliance and prosperity blessed by peace and by tranquility. We have

all the materials at hand for the building up here on a solid basis of a great community of freemen. Our enemies are internal dissensions, inter-provincial conflicts, the quarrels of race and creed. These we must rigidly avoid if the Confederation is to endure; or Canada obtain a place of any kind in the family of nations. We who have borne part in the beginning of this country should see that the good work is continued on the principles of justice, equality and freedom, and not on the principle of one class acquiring privileges that are refused to another. Our freedom is too precious to be made the prey of the demagogue. Canadians, then, let us be in every sense of the term free men and true men in every respect, and the God who guards and guides nations as well as individuals will shower his blessings upon us. By adherence to these principles the year 1887 will be a truly prosperous one for our country. May it be in every case for all our readers a thrice happy New Year.

GLADSTONE AGAIN THE MAN OF THE HOUR.

The resignation of the Tory leader in the British Commons of his place in the Cabinet, is an event of the very gravest significance in British politics. Lord Randolph Churchill occupied too large a place in the Tory party that his withdrawal from the Salisbury Cabinet can be looked upon otherwise than a fatal blow to that institution. True, the Marquis of Hartington may be induced to join his Tory friends, but he cannot save Salisbury from ruin. He cannot take Churchill's place as leader of the House, because by nature and by habit he is constitutionally unfit for so laborious a position. Who will then lead the Commons? This question has, however, little practical importance, for Mr. Gladstone again comes to the front with all the irresistible power of an undying popularity. England believes in the Grand Old Man, and will again confide in him, when the Tories step down and out, the reins of government. Mr. Gladstone will be shortly again at the head of the Commons. Shortly again will he introduce another Home Rule Bill for Ireland, and this bill will pass by majorities so overwhelming as to bear down all opposition from aristocracy or royalty. Mr. Chamberlain again years for a return to the Liberal fold. No one is more desirous of his return, we may well believe, than Mr. Gladstone, for Mr. Chamberlain is a man of great intellectual power and political strength, but he cannot reasonably expect Mr. Gladstone to surrender his views to those he puts forward. As the Liberal party's union is at hand, so is Home Rule brightening the horizon by its steady, luminous advance.

THE ANTI-RENT MOVEMENT.

The anti-Irish and anti-Irish papers on both sides of the Atlantic seem to have very mistaken notions of the anti-rent movement in Ireland. This movement is very generally denounced as communistic in character, an invasion of private right and a gross violation of contract. Now, nothing could be further from the truth. The movement is as just and as equitable as any ever undertaken and promoted by a whole people. The rents demanded by the landlords, the tenants in most cases are unable to pay. But the Irish landlord is so built as to be the most cruel and inexorable of masters. He will reap where he has not sown, but this time he takes the reaper in hand for a vain purpose. An united people have forbidden the reaping, and the landlord, without government aid, can do nothing. Labouchere in *Truth* says of the situation:

"Mr. Goschen must be in a state of the wildest elation. At length his doctrines in regard to property have been acted upon. In the autumn session Mr. Parnell pointed out that owing to the fall in the price of produce a large number of Irish tenants could not pay their rents. The Government admitted this, but insisted that a tenant cannot pay he ought to be put out on the roadside with his wife and children to die of cold and starvation if his landlord be so minded. Lord Clarendon and other landlords were so minded. The Irish Nationalist members collected all the money that the poor tenants could pay and offered it to the landlords, vainly fancying that their cold hearts would be moved to accept it. The Nationalists pleaded as Fortia pleaded to Shylock, 'My Lord, I want my bond!' replied the landlords; and now the Government has stepped in and thrust these pleading Fortias into prison. Truly, Mammon is God and great is Goschen, his prophet!"

The incarceration of a few of the Irish leaders will not postpone, even for a day—prevention is out of the question—the destruction of Irish landlordism. We publish elsewhere an article from *Le Moniteur de Rome* which shows that this important and influential journal has a clear mental grasp of the Irish situation. The *Freeman's Journal* receives *Le Moniteur's* words of explanation and commendation with very marked favor. It says:

"Above all things, the *Moniteur* is a journal that is utterly opposed to the spirit of revolution, and pledged to support legitimate authority all the world over. Its traditions, its associations, and its res-

ponsibilities are a more than sufficient guarantee that its utterances are words of morality, of wisdom, and of truth, and that the opinions which it expresses have been formed, not lightly, but after the closest searching and the most scrupulous thought. Sifted of all the machinations of our enemies, Rome, thank God, realizes and appreciates the true position of the Irish Question, and the justice of the claims of the Irish people."

The approval given by His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin to the "plan of campaign" has given general satisfaction in Ireland. The ultra Tory English element, represented by the *Talisman*, is of course horrified at His Grace's action and indicts him for practical communism. His Grace is, however, in the action he has taken but following in the footsteps of Cardinal Moran. Mr. T. M. Healy, at a late meeting of the National League, thus spoke of Archbishop Walsh's course:

"I observe that now that His Grace the Archbishop of Dublin—(applause)—has boldly come forward as a Churchman, and scrutinizing, as he is in his exalted and critical position was bound to do, the morality of the proceedings, weighing them in the scales of justice, it is consoling to find that in his point of view at any rate the plan of campaign is deserving of his sanction (applause). But we find that His Grace is very bitterly attacked for this pronounced action. We find that His Grace was the first Churchman in Ireland who has ever said one single word in a similar direction. I had the curiosity to turn back to another pronouncement that was made by a man with views very much more reserved upon the National question than His Grace—namely, the Bishop of Ossory, now Cardinal Moran—(applause)—an ecclesiastic against whom the most loyal organ in this country cannot breathe one single word, who proved his loyalty on the occasion of the despatch of the Sudan expedition by the Colonies, to kill and slaughter a people whom Mr. Gladstone declared to be rightly struggling to be free, by blessing their banners, by giving the troops his benediction, and by subscribing £50 towards that slaughtering expedition. Therefore, if His Grace of Dublin was attacked on the ground that he is not a partisan of the British Government, I ask for some attention to the words of this letter of His Eminence Cardinal Moran, written at a time when the Land Act, which creates the tenant a joint owner with his so-called landlord, because we have declared long before this that it is the tenant who is the genuine owner of the soil; I ask the attention of the critics of His Grace to those words of Cardinal Moran, written on the 1st of October, 1880, long before the Land Act was thought of, or before the present movement had generated so many new ideas in the minds of the people of this country, ruling and ruled. This is written to a Land League meeting:—'In many cases the rents that are required from the tenants are exorbitant and unjust. The protecting mantle of the law should not be extended over such unscrupulous contracts, and any such which are above a fair Government valuation should not be recoverable in the civil courts. Indeed, it seems to me that legislation on this head should be retrospective, and that the rack-rents exacted from the tenants during the last twenty years should be reduced to the tenants or other persons who have been injured by the law, towards the purchase by the tenants of the fee simple of their holdings.'"

It is pleasing indeed to find the priests and people of Ireland united on this vital question of rack-rents. We have now Mr. Mundella, a member of the Gladstone Cabinet, declaring himself in favor of the plan of campaign, and there can be no doubt that the masses of the English democracy are heart and soul with the sorely tried Irish peasantry in their conflict with an alien and heartless aristocracy. It is by union with the democracy of Britain that the people of Ireland will obtain their liberation from landlord domination and from foreign legislation. Home Rule is clearly at hand. Not even the combined strength of British and Irish landlordism can arrest its coming. That coming will be hailed with joy not alone by the Irish race, but we would fain believe by the vast majority of Englishmen themselves.

CHRISTMAS IN LONDON.

Christmas Day was observed with the utmost solemnity in London. At 6 a. m. His Lordship the Bishop celebrated Pontifical High Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral in the presence of an immense congregation, to which he also addressed a brief but stirring discourse. At 10:30, the Right Rev. Mgr. Bruyere was the celebrant of the High Mass and the Rev. Father Walsh the preacher. We may here add that on Sunday, the 26th, Mgr. Bruyere filled the pulpit to the hearty satisfaction of the people, who pray that he may be long spared to this city and diocese. At St. Mary's the services were conducted by the Rev. Father Dunphy. The Rev. Father Walsh was the celebrant of midnight Mass at the Sacred Heart, and the Rev. Father Coffey, beginning at six a. m. offered up his three Masses in the Mount Hope Chapel, which was beautifully adorned for the occasion. The collection at St. Peter's and St. Mary's was unusually large, aggregating we believe \$1,600.

The more a soul who loves God does for Him, the more it wishes to do.

If you wish to be pleasing to God and happy here below, be in all things united to His will.

TWICE SAVED.

The American republic is under deeper obligations to the Catholic Church than many of her citizens know, or, if they know, would care to admit. The writers of American histories strive, in general, to convey to their readers the idea and the impression that America is a Protestant country, owing all its greatness to the "Mayflower" and "Plymouth Rock," with the traditions and the principles that both are supposed to typify. Nineteenth of these writers do not, of course, know any better—but, if they did, would they be prepared to render Rome her due? Would they be ready to acknowledge the debt of gratitude every citizen of free America should feel towards the Church Catholic? To the Rock of Peter and not the Rock of Plymouth is America indebted for her liberty. The part borne by the Most Rev. John Carroll, first Bishop and Archbishop of Baltimore, in the gaining of American Independence, is not as well kept before the minds even of Catholic readers as it should. The importance and far-reaching consequence of his support of the cause of freedom are understood by few.

We were, we must confess, quite unprepared—though much of our reading and research had had reference to that period of history—for the statement of Mr. John Pope Hodnett, who, writing in the *Washington Republican* of the services rendered by Catholics in the war of independence, says:

"Archbishop Carroll, of Baltimore, was the next man to George Washington. It was he who got the Pope of Rome to send the Papal nuncio to the King of France to get him to send the French army and navy to aid the Americans. It was he who got the Catholic generals, Baron Steuben and De Kalb, and the Catholic Polish generals, Kosciuszko and Pulaski, to join the revolution. Benjamin Franklin was sent by Congress to France to intercede with the king in behalf of the colonies. He was not successful. One bright morning he was sitting in the waiting room of the king's palace for an audience, looking downhearted and forlorn, for he had received a letter from Washington, saying: 'If France did not send over her army the cause must fail, for my troops were commencing to mutiny and he could not raise funds to pay them; they had no rations, and their feet were on the ground and cut and bleeding from the cold.' Franklin, looking downcast and woe-begone, as he was revolving Washington's last official letter in his philosophical mind, he was aroused from his melancholy stupor by a voice calling, 'Mr. Franklin! Oh, Mr. Franklin!' Franklin jumped up and rubbed his eyes. It was the Pope's nuncio. 'I have good news for you,' he said.

"I have just got consent of the king to send over a French army and navy to aid your countrymen." Franklin, astonished, threw himself on his knees and clasped the hand of the nuncio, kissing it several times. 'Oh,' he said, 'Rome has saved my country! America will never forget it of Rome! The Catholics shall have all the rights the Protestants have. Convey to His Holiness the Pope my thanks for the aid the American people. We shall never, never forget it for Rome.' The nuncio said:

"Mr. Franklin, you must thank Father Carroll (Bishop Carroll) for it was he who induced the Pope of Rome to send me here in the interest of the American people. His letters in favor of your cause were laid by me before the French king and cabinet, and success has crowned his efforts."

So, readers, if you want to learn something of the man who, next to Almighty God and Washington, gave you a flag and a country, turn to the Catholic Cathedral in Baltimore and see his tomb. Washington himself said, "Of all the men whose influence was most potent in securing the success of the revolution, Bishop Carroll of Baltimore was the man." The English king called him "the rebel bishop." Washington's Richelieu, the prime minister and adviser of Congress, the man who got the Pope of Rome to send his influence at the French court for the Americans. No, no, sir," said he, turning to Mr. Pitt, the Prime minister of England, "I shall never sign a bill granting Catholic Emancipation after the action taken by the rebel bishop of Baltimore. He had America detached from my dominions by the aid of the French army and navy, and by the force of Irish Catholics. No, no, Mr. Pitt, you need not stop to argue the question with me; my mind is made up on that question." "Then," said Mr. Pitt, "if that is your majesty's determination, I cannot remain in office, for I am pledged in one of the articles of union between England and Ireland to grant Catholic emancipation. It is necessary to save the union of the British empire. I must resign." "Then," said the obstinate king, "do so, do so." So Pitt resigned like a man, and Catholic emancipation was not granted for twenty-eight years after this. This shows you what Ireland suffered for American independence. It also shows that Bishop Carroll's influence was mainly instrumental in securing our independence. The people of Boston turned out to receive the French army, which was led by a Catholic priest with a crucifix in his hand through the streets of Boston. All the ancient burghers of Boston turned out and went to the Catholic church in compliment to the French, and all the old English statutes against the Catholics were repealed on the spot. This is the record of the day. The 60,000 Catholics in Washington can point to it with just pride."

Very interesting reading, indeed, is this, in the light of subsequent American history. Surely, had America known the nature and value of Archbishop Carroll's services, the Know Nothing agitation, with its murder, its rioting, its incendiaryism, had never disgraced the fair fame

of the union. This agitation, though short lived, inflicted much injury and still greater disgrace on the republic and lost not its vigor till it was shown the battle field that Irish Catholics were more ready to die for freedom than Puritan Nativists, who burned convents, sacked churches, and murdered innocent people. When the war of rebellion broke out—taking away two states out of the union, and leaving the remaining fragmentary republic alone in its helplessness and dismay—the American government had again to look to the Catholic Church for its powerful assistance, not this time to John Carroll, he had long gone to join the majority but to John Hughes, Archbishop of New York. History tells us that on the 2nd of October, 1861, in the very dark hours of America's national existence, Mr. Seward, then Secretary of State, invited Archbishop Hughes to come to Washington—for a personal conference on matters of grave public concern. The confederate states had just sent Messrs. Mason and Slidell to Europe to seek aid, or, at all events, the recognition of the great powers for the new erected government of Jefferson Davis. It was well known in Washington that England and France were in sympathy with the South. It was felt that the might be induced by the Confederate envoys to recognize the South, and thus give it credit abroad as well as confidence at home. Rightly did Mr. Seward judge that the official recognition of the Confederacy by these great powers would be followed by many, if not most other European States, and the cause of America receive not only a rude shock abroad, but perchance an irretrievable check at home. Hence his prompt action in sending the Archbishop. The result of the conference between these two illustrious men was, that the Archbishop was sent to France and Mr. Thurlow Weed to England. The nature and scope of the Archbishop's mission may be inferred from a letter to Cardinal Barnabo:

"I made known to the President that if I should come to Europe, it would be as a partisan of the North more than of the South; that I should represent the interests of the South as well as of the North—in short, the interests of all the United States, just the same as if they had never been distracted by the present civil war. The people of the South know that I am not opposed to their interests. They have even published that in their papers, and some say that my coming to Europe is with a view to bringing about a reconciliation between the two sections of the country. But, fact, no one but myself, either North or South, knows the entire object of my visit to Europe. . . . I made known to the ministers of Washington that I could accept no official appointment from them; that it was not their power to bestow any distinction upon me equal to that which the Church had already conferred; that I could not undertake to fulfill any written instructions; but that if I came I should be free to use my own discretion, to say and do what I would be most likely to accomplish for the good, or at least to prevent evil. They said that I should go with a *carte blanche*—do and say for the interests of the country, prevention of war, and interests of humanity, any thing that should think proper.

This much, your Eminence, I think proper to communicate, so that you, your Eminence may have a clearer view of the circumstances under which I have acted, not doubting that your Eminence would have approved of my course, if I had had an opportunity of consulting you before my departure. I would take it as a great favor if you would explain briefly these circumstances to our most Holy Father the Pope."

And now permit me to make some remarks on the motives which prompted the Government of the United States to request of me the sacrifice necessary involved in a tempestuous voyage across the Atlantic.

1st. The Government knows that the people of America, both of the North and of the South, whether Catholics or Protestants, have great confidence in me, as one who will never say anything but what he knows or believes to be true; that although loyal to the legitimate government in America, I am regarded as no enemy of the South; that as the cabinet at Washington believe in more reliance would be placed on my statements, on account of my being Catholic prelate, than would be placed on the words of any official minister of the United States, either in Paris, London, or elsewhere.

2d. The Government at Washington were pleased to think that, in requesting me to accept this mission, they were paying a great compliment to the whole Catholic people of the United States and they wished to give me also a mark of their confidence which might go far, as an example for future administrations, to be well disposed toward the Catholics and by this act to condemn that spirit of intolerance which, but a few years ago, under the name of Know-Nothing, attempted to treat the Catholics of America as equal citizens, unworthy of the equal privileges which the laws of the country extend to all its inhabitants."

Archbishop Hughes' mission was crowned with complete success. France would not, and England then could not recognize the Southern Confederacy, which, left to its own resources, had fought a long and losing battle till its final extinction in the springtime of 1865. Thus twice in less than one hundred years was America saved by a Catholic Archbishop. Twice did the Church, long and so often called the enemy of liberty, throw her protective mantle around the struggling or threatened daughter of freedom—the