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## THE CATHOLIC.

Hamilton, G. D.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28.

### POSITION AND PROSPECTS OF THE ENGLISH CHURCH.

Amid the jar of party contention and the bitter wailings of national distress, (says the *Belfast Vindicator*,) the public eye has gradually turned away from the signs of a revolution which will ultimately effect a more permanent change in these kingdoms than the issue of a thousand party contests. Dr. Pusey is the man of the Era; and while a great and powerful party are domineering over the people in the name and on behalf of the Established Church, that adventurous scholar has contrived to steal the Church itself from its party. The public have forgotten the new Reformers, but they have not forgotten the public; but on the contrary, are extending their dominions over the entire of the Protestant World. The *London Morning Advertiser*, a most unwilling witness, announces and deplors their success in the following terms:—

"Puseyism is spreading far and wide. It is insinuating itself into every crevice of the social system. So insidious in many instances are its approaches, that persons have drunk the deadly poison without being aware of the circumstance. It is working laboriously though not openly, in every part of the globe. In North America, in the West Indies, the East Indies, New South Wales, and every other place where civilization has made any progress, it has obtained a footing, and is making rapid advances.

"As regards the Church of England, the new heresy, or rather the revival of an old one with several new additions may now be considered fairly triumphant.—Three Fourths of the clergy are its strenuous abettors; and their ranks are every hour receiving fresh accessions—That church is now essentially Popish; in a short time she will become so avowedly, as she now is in secret.—Oxford recently erected its monument to the memories of Cranmer, Latimer, Ridley, and other Reformers. It would not surprise, if ere long other monuments, were to be erected in the same place, to the memories of Bonner, and some half a dozen of the other leading opponents of the Reformation.—One thing is clear—that no Evangelical conscientious clergyman can remain much longer within the pale of the Establishment. If he would maintain a good conscience, he must come of her, and raise his voice against the degenerate condition in which she has latterly fallen. Evangelical truth is in a fair way of being strangled within the bosom of the Church.—Whatever of true religion will be found in the land in a few years hence must be sought for among Evangelical Dissenters and within the pale of the Presbyterian establishment."

Apart altogether from any religious consideration we rejoice in this success of the now and only true Reformation of the English Church. It will afford a practical answer to the most scandalous lie of the Exeter-Hall fanatics and Home-Mission speculators. Popery, those persons were accustomed to declare, could only co-exist with the grossest ignorance. We will not answer them now by referring them to the long line of illustrious men who have been gathered into the fold of Rome, in all ages, since the redemption; but we will send them to the most learned professors, and illustrious prelates of England, to have their imputations practically refuted. All that is enlightened and distinguished of the English Church must be allied with the grossest ignorance, if a predisposition to Catholicity involves such a consequence.—*Boston Pilot*.

### SPEECH OF MR. O'CONNELL

At the Great meeting of the Catholics of Liverpool in the Royal Amphitheatre.

MR O'CONNELL rose and was received with the most affectionate and enthusiastic demonstration of applause, which was renewed for nearly ten minutes. The right hon. gentleman said: I cannot, like my rev. friend, say this is the first time I addressed a public meeting, or that I am unaccustomed to public speaking [laughter]. I cannot describe the heartfelt pleasure and delight which I feel in having to propose the following resolution—"That it will be highly conducive to the good of religion that the fathers of the Society of Jesus be enabled to resume their labours in the sacred ministry in the town of Liverpool." Oh, it fills me with delight to speak where bigotry is rampant. Go, look for a more bigoted place than your town of Liverpool. If you can find such a place, I shall go and visit it as a curiosity [laughter]. There is more practical bigotry in Liverpool than in any other ten towns in England combined. Here they have bad politics because they are bigots. The corporation, with a preponderating majority of Tories, remarkable for exclusiveness, frustrates every individual effort to promote Christian charity. The parliamentary representatives of the town are bigots, who jander to faction and sacrifice the public interest. Bigotry is the polar star in this town of joint-stock churches, where the pulpit is desecrated by harangues breathing intolerance and religious rancour. Every Christian knows that the plunder of the Catholic Church was followed by the desecration of the altar—that the Reformation was nurtured in impurity, and fostered by persecution of the faith of our fathers. Let us rejoice at the prospect that the Catholic faith, in all its ancient glories, is likely to be re-established in England, once she shall have returned to the centre of unity. In all nations remarkable for great learning and freedom, as well as morality, the ancient faith is gaining fresh triumphs; I challenge any man to test this truth. I shall take them, nation by nation, and prove that Catholicity is daily increasing, that the effect, the disastrous effect of error is manifested where Protestantism prevails. I shall stand with the globe be-

fore me and prove that the banners of Catholicity are unfurled in many nations where the ancient faith, not a very distant day, was at a discount. In North America, at the period of the Revolution, when the people flung off the trammels of oppression on a trick of their one fine morning (a laugh), there was but one Catholic bishop; now there are twenty-seven bishops and an archbishop; and Catholic Churches are every where appearing to rebuke bigotry; and give a practical proof that, while Protestantism contracts and daily disappears, Catholicity is expanding and encompassing within herself the nations of the world (loud cheering). I shall give you disinterested witnesses to this glorious consummation. There is Miss Martineau, a Unitarian—but I have nothing to do with her creed, as it is not my fashion to find fault with the religious tenets of others—there is Martineau, who states that so rapid is the accumulation of Catholic strength, that all America will eventually become Catholic; so great, so astounding does this lady regard the progress of Catholicity, that she predicts the universality of the Catholic faith in that great country. Again, we have Captain Mariyat, a thorough Tory, a man in no way enamoured of any thing Catholic, who, while he questions the correctness of Miss Martineau's conclusions, admits that in all the valleys of the Ohio, Mississippi, and Missouri, the population will be Catholic; that is, we shall have a trifling addition to our numbers of about one hundred and twenty millions (laughter and great cheering.)

In Germany, Protestant Prussia, and along the Rhenish banks, the good cause triumphs. In Prussia there is a sort of compromise of religion, an attempt to make out a new religion. Three thousand Lutherans lately left that country, because they could not cut out spiritual cloth after the new fashion. Though the Archbishop of Cologne—a man who should be dear to every Catholic, on account of his chivalrous devotion to the ancient faith, and his martyred resolution—though that great man was consigned to prison, persecution failed in its object, and new triumphs were given to Catholicity. France has recovered from her fatal revolutions, when infidelity raised its ominous front, and religion was put to the ban; when the rivers were deluged with blood, and the worst passions ran riot in the absence of religious control. Oh! there is a glorious manifestation to be witnessed in France. Eighteen hundred men go to confession now in one church, where not five went before. Youths are forming themselves into religious societies; and, from province to province, Catholic Christianity is extending its benignant influences (prolonged cheering). In Spain infidelity is on the wane among even the former adherents of the fell tyrant, Espartero.—The banner of the cross waves again triumphant in Portugal. Catholicity is spreading in all quarters, recovering its strength where it has been depressed by tyranny, and finding its way, through the instrumentality of pious missionaries, into regions where the faith was not known.—

All things are working together to give to that faith a glorious triumph worthy of the second coming of Christ, (immense cheering). Let us now look to Scotland.—Never was there a greater revolt in the religious world than is now to be witnessed in Scotland. The Church and State are at open war. The Church defies the State, and the latter issues its mandates against the Church. To be sure, I am no admirer of such alliances; and I regret that the Catholic Church had ever been tarnished by state alliance. Dr. Stewart, a Presbyterian clergyman of Belfast, said the Reformation of the Church of England was effected by Henry VIII., the murderer of his wife—how charitable he is! Why he murdered three wives.—[Laughter.] M'Neile may retort on him, and say that the Scottish Reformed Church was brought about by the villainies of John Knox, who, according to Mr. Tyler, was guilty of two assassinations. The Catholic Church was disgraced, it is true, by the persecutions of Queen Mary—persecutions which however, only continued for three years, while Elizabeth, the pious Protestant, persecuted with a vengeance for forty years. Eight thousand Protestant Dissenters were destroyed by an emanating tyranny in the reign of the profligate Charles II. But let me pass from this theme to rejoice in the prospect of a new church, and in the resumption of their useful labours by the Fathers of the society of Jesus. There cannot be a more useful extension of Catholic influence.—Who can duly appreciate the extraordinary services of the Jesuits? Tears of blood cannot atone for the persecutions inflicted on that most excellent Society.—Thank heavens! the times are coming round, the just anger of God, if I may venture on the phrase, may be averted by the restitution of this truly Christian Society. There was a time when a man would be knocked down for halting the approach of a Jesuit. Thank God! the Jesuits are appearing again amongst us. The spirit of the times is daily undergoing a salutary change. The highest families, I may say, are giving us their first born. Earl Spencer's brother is now preaching in Dublin, and the brother of Colonel Sibthorp edifying the Protestants of England by his unanswerable defence of the old faith, to which he is a distinguished convert; and out of respect, as I am in Liverpool, I forbear mentioning the name of another distinguished convert, who has renounced all considerations to embrace the Catholic faith. The people of Ireland offer up their aspirations for England's conversion. Have they done nothing? Oh! where would be your numerous Catholic churches if Paddy had not come to England! [Laughter.] When Europe was buried in darkness, it is a well-authenticated historical fact, that Ireland sent her missionaries to diffuse the light of knowledge and spread the blessings of religion despising narrow or sectarian feelings, and over a benighted world. A good Christian would not degrade the God of all into the God of a sect. I have ever been the advocate of civil and religious liberty, without reference to creed or clime; for