

The material portion of the banquet having received due consideration the toastmaster, Mr. M. A. Foley, 'oo, arose and said :

"Centuries have come and gone since Patrick knelt at the feet of Celestin and from his lips received the command to "win to Christ one realm the more." That realm has been won. And though war has often laid waste its smiling fields, though famine has carried off thousands upon thousands of its people, though direful persecutions have filled martyr's graves with its noblest sons and daughters, faithful has it remained to the last. Nothing could break that sacred tie, nor interrupt that paternal embrace, nor efface that filial kiss which Ireland and the papacy exchanged by the hand of St. Celestin and the lips of St. Paul. To-day that tie is as sacred, that embrace as paternal, that kiss as filial between the children of St. Patrick and the successor to Celestin, the grand, glorious

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"that Puissance great, the Church's mitred Sire." To him then gentlemen, who sits on the Throne of the Fisherman, to him who is styled the prisoner of the Vatican, to him whom millions love to call their Holy Father, as Irishmen, as the most loyal sons of The Holy Father, I ask you now to drink with me the toast which I propose in his honor, coupled with the name of Mr. William Egleson."

Mr. Egleson, 'oo, on rising to reply, was greeted by a rousing cheer. He said: Your Grace, Mr. Toastmaster, Reverend Fathers and Gentlemen ;—

"Most fitting as it is that we as devoted sons of the Emerald Isle should gather around the festive board to-day to celebrate the anniversary feast of him who carried the glad tidings of the gospel to Erin's shores and enkindled the holy light of faith, in the hearts of our forefathers ; appropriate as it is that we should sing the joys and commemorate the glories of dear old Ireland and recall with sympathetic remembrance her sorrows and afflictions in the dark days of persecution, it is by no means less becoming or contrary to the spirit of the day that the first toast at this magnificent banquet should be one in honor of him who is the father and the personification of that divine faith which ever since the days of St. Patrick has been the distinctive mark