

while condemning the rashness of the leaders of *The Young Ireland* party, we cannot but admire the array of celebrated men of which it was composed, Charles Gavan Duffey, who was pronounced by the "*Univers de Paris*," to be "One of the greatest, if not the greatest of living Editors," William Smith O'Brien, of noble blood, the glowing and unselfish patriot who was fighting Ireland's battles on the floor of the British House of Commons, side by side with O'Connell, both Catholics in their views, the former a CATHOLIC PROTESTANT, demanding for his countrymen (Catholic) their rights as British freemen, the latter a PROTESTANT CATHOLIC, ever protesting, with all the great powers of his great mind, against the reign of bigotry and oppression which held, and alas! still holds, to a great extent, his countrymen, of all creeds or sects save one, fettered, soul and body, in abject slavery. O'Brien appealed to the passions of the Irish people. But O'Connell's appeals were directed to the heart of the great English Nation—that heart which is not surpassed in its deep admiration of justice and fair play, by any other nation on the face of the earth. As an Irishman, with Irish sympathies, and an Irishman's prejudices, we proudly admit that an appeal was never yet made to the great English Nation, advanced and supported by just and legal means, by moral force, by force of reason, by logical argument and by an appeal to the strong for justice to the weak, that it was not heard, listened to, and granted, not grudgingly, but generously, and with a genuine pleasure which sunk deep into the hearts of the recipients of such proofs of English justice; from the day when the sturdy Barons wrenched "*Magna Charta*" from a king who was at their mercy to the present, the *English people* never abused their power; they always proved true to the Golden Rule. It was not the British Government that repealed the *Penal Laws*, the English people ordered it, and the Government had to obey. The English people demanded emancipation for their Irish fellow subjects, the Government had to obey, though some of its members dared not live to face the terrible consequences of releasing Ireland from her chains. Oh! great men, oh! little mortals, how short a distance do you see into the future. Ireland was emancipated in 1829. Where are the dreadful consequences which your foolish fears foreshadowed? Where are the dreadful results which you foretold? The consequences are that all true Irishmen, Catholic and Protestant, became bound by ties of affection to the Empire; and the results, dreadful to England's enemies only, are that the most loyal people in Ireland to-day, are the children of those enemies of your own making, who were freed from the chains with which ignorance and bigotry had bound them by the voice of the great English Nation.

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