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An Insult to Cardinal Gibbons.

When Archbishop Ireland recently visited London, the Catholic nobility of Britain could not do enough to heap upon him demonstrations of their esteem and honor. Our readers will recall the great satisfaction that was derived from the words of the western prelate addressed to his hearty English friends and the cheerful reflections caught on this side the ocean of the admirable influences which Dr. Ireland had awakened. That is no many months ago, but already the gushing fountain would seem to have frozen solid. We hesitate, of course, to believe that the old and faithful Catholic families of England would so far forget the duty they owe to their country and their Church as to allow any racial or political prejudices to mar the sympathy that unites Catholic opinion on this and that side of the Atlantic. The facts, however, cannot be overlooked. Cardinal Vaughan has extended an invitation to Cardinal Gibbons to visit England next year for the opening of the Westminster Cathedral. The invitation has not yet been accepted, and certain parties have apparently determined to do all in their power to prevent its acceptance.

One individual writes to the London Times and having referred in offensive terms to Cardinal Gibbons, he proceeds to cite some passages from Mr. Lecky's last book in which he assails the American Cardinal for having written a eulogistic preface to the life of the rebel John Boyle O'Reilly. The alternative offered to the Archbishop of Baltimore is that he should "explain" what he has written about John Boyle O'Reilly.

Such a letter is beneath contempt. The writer, in order to possess himself of sling to cast an insult at the Archbishop of Baltimore, steps out from the ground of religion to do partisan service with an anti-Irish freebooter. While it is impossible to imagine that the writer of such an insult not alone to Cardinal Gibbons but to the great body of the Catholic people of America represents the responsible Catholic opinion of Great Britain, it furnishes this indication of English opinion at all events, that many anti-Irish Unionists are only willing to employ American friendship as a means of catering to their own prejudices.

Lord Rosebery and British Politics.

Goldwin Smith does not consider Lord Rosebery a serious possibility in British politics of the immediate future. The return of the noble Lord to the political arena is, however, the subject of keen speculation among journalists who have perhaps a nearer view of English affairs than our distinguished fellow-citizen. The opinion has generally prevailed that the recent change in the editorial control of The Speaker was a Rosebery move. If by any new grouping of Liberal and Unionist factions Lord Rosebery could push his way to the front once more, it is very probable that he would be called upon to take the field against Mr. Chamberlain as candidate for the Conservative (?) Premiership. The bare idea of a disguised Tory in the person of Lord Rosebery leading a merely nominal "Liberal" party, and as ambitious adventurer like Mr. Chamberlain leading the old Tories, who detest him, would realize chaos itself in British politics. Still, if the present war should turn out a political success—no one can mount the success of British armed forces—there is open to his further ambitions only one of two alternatives. He will have to bring Lord Rosebery to his side or challenge him to take the field for a national decision upon the leadership of the new Imperialism. It is too soon as yet to form any sort of definite opinion with regard to the probable drift of the Liberal masses; but in a faith when faith in the traditions of British Liberalism remains, certainly cannot discern the seeds and construction to cause deep rooted in the hearts of the British masses, because a passing wave of emotion has caused more or less disorder.

Lord Rosebery's recent Stirling speech at Bath marked, it is thought, the height of the jingo wave. Even the new editor of the noble Lord's own organ, The Speaker, could not stand it, and has raised a rallying cry for the reform of true Liberalism. Lord Rosebery's Bath oration was base from a Tory standpoint. "The Transvaal from Within," by a Mr. Fitzpatrick, which Liberals were advised to read and digest carefully, if they would understand and vote Tory in the new Liberal Imperialism. The editor of The Speaker has got the book and read it, but with what result the following editorial extract will indicate:

Lord Rosebery advised his audience to read "The Transvaal from Within," which seems to me to bear on every page and in every sentence the mark of truth." We turn," says The Speaker, "to the

Manufactured News.

[illegible] Times [illegible] to be [illegible] of certain [illegible] to publish [illegible] to the Cape [illegible] the message to the Cape 'the report [illegible] dubious discretion, [illegible] of the [illegible] upon which [illegible] to the [illegible] criminal prosecution [illegible] question arises. Why [illegible] Times [illegible] report [illegible] upon the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]