

goodness whatever the education granted to the children to-day represents. It is of supreme importance, therefore, to instil religious sentiments and principles of sound morality into the hearts of the children and youth of our day. For this generosity is necessary on the part of the rich, patience on the part of teachers, solicitude on the part of all, that an education complete from the point of view of religion be afforded to the youth.

"The working classes also merit the particular attention of those who would be promoters of good, both for themselves and on account of the snares laid for them by false friends. In recent times the Church has been the best friend of the workman, and to-day We take this opportunity of observing that the Encyclical *Rerum Novarum* of Pope Leo XIII. retains its pristine vigor, for it still expresses the maternal goodwill and provident care of the Church for the working classes. In exhorting you to give them your special attention, We cannot now descend to details touching professional unions and Christian syndicates and such like. Let it be enough for you to know that the Pope has the matter at heart.

"The blessing of God can certainly hasten the fruit of your resolution: We, therefore, invoke it in abundance on the promoters of Catholic action whom, with paternal benevolence, We salute once more as Our co-operators. We invoke it on every one who shares in the work of the Popular Union."

America and Ireland

Goldwin Smith declared that nothing stands in the way of a reconciliation between the two branches of the Anglo-Saxon race (*sic*) except the influence of the Irish. We have seen how this influence was made felt time and again, and how it defeated the aspirations and plans of English politicians. Ireland struck back across the seas at her hereditary tyrant and dealt her many a blow in return for the persecutions endured at home. "If America has a ghost," says Shane Leslie, "it is Ireland. But if Ireland haunts America, it is with a haunting based on love and not on hate. Like the Janus of the Atlantic, Ireland is two-faced. Towards England she ever looks with anguish and bitterness, towards the United States with fearful hope and wistful affection. For in the nineteenth century America was to Ireland what France was in the eighteenth, *la grande nation*! The strongest and choicest went into their service military in the case of France, industrial in that of America. The industrial connection found apotheosis in the names of Ford and McCormick." The United States, from the day when the American people cast off the tyrannical yoke of England, have ever looked sympathetically and lovingly towards Ireland, ever hoping for the dawn of the day when they might welcome into the community of free nations that oppressed country which stood by them so magnificently in their hour of trial. The bonds of union first forged in the ragged ranks of Washington's army of freedom have been strengthened down through the years, and when Irishmen were driven, by the tyranny they helped America to conquer from their own land it was naturally towards America they set their faces. Thither, with hate for England in their hearts, they have poured in endless streams through all the black, bad years of English misrule. They have given to America her finest soldiers, her greatest orators, her bishops, her judges, her merchants, and they know that America does not forget and that the debt will one day be repaid in full. Deep in Irish hearts the conviction lies that American help and sympathy will be theirs in their struggle to overcome English selfishness and perfidy and to uplift Ireland to her rightful position among the free peoples. America won her freedom largely through the help of Irishmen, and America's victory is to this day an inspiration to the still oppressed country, leading her to hope on until the time comes when she too shall win her liberty. Catholic and Protestant Ireland in far-off days hailed American freedom with delight, and let us trust that America will yet hail a free Ireland in which Catholic and Pro-

testant will stand together inspired by common love for their own land. America does not forget the part played by Irishmen in the Revolution. Jack Barry, of Wexford, was the father of the American Navy, and he it was who first sailed to sea under the new flag of the free country. A Sullivan fired the first shot and took Fort William and Mary. Washington's aides included a Fitzgerald and a Moylan. Nine men of Irish blood signed the Declaration of Independence. The White House was erected on the land of a Carroll, and it was modelled on the Leinster House of Dublin. In the dread years of famine, while English soldiers were carting away the corn that might feed the dying people, and the London *Times* was praying that the day might come when an Irishman would be as rare on the banks of the Shannon as a Red Indian on the shores of Manhattan, the Irish exodus went on, pouring into America, in unnumbered thousands, the men and women who were to play so great a part in building up and modelling the new Ireland beyond the seas. As Shane Leslie says, although many were lost sight of, "numbers and morality told." Frank Hugh O'Donnell wrote that "from Presidents of the Republic to presidents of trusts, and from the pioneer founders of eastern cities to the mighty athletes of Olympian competitions, where will you not find Irish-Americans?"

How THE IRISH MADE THEIR INFLUENCE FELT.—The Irish in Washington's armies broke the power of England. The Irish exiles in later years built up the power of America. And they never lost an opportunity of wielding that power against England. The Civil War helped to make the Americans appreciate what Ireland did for them. When Archbishop Hughes hoisted "Old Glory" to the top of the spire of Cincinnati Cathedral, President Hayes said of the incident:—"The spire was beautiful, but the Catholic Prelate made it radiant with hope and glory for our country." Meagher's men covered themselves with deathless honor on the slopes of Fredericksburg. The Irish 69th threw back Pickett's charge at Gettysburg. The Fenian movement was cradled round the camp-fires of the Union. Every movement for Irish freedom was supported by thousands of friends in the States who remembered and will always remember what Ireland did for them in their own need. During the eighties there were not less than 42 Irishmen in the House of Representatives, while fully one-half claimed to have Irish blood in their veins. It became almost necessary in time for an American President to have Irish blood. All the Cardinals and most of the Prelates were Irish by birth or by descent. In religion, in politics, in commerce the Irish are a force to be reckoned with in America to-day. They are making their force felt, and they will want to know the reason why if President Wilson dares return to the United States without keeping faith with them and raising his voice in behalf of the small nation that is dear to them all. If a settlement is not arrived at there will be scant welcome for the President, and his shrift will be short. The Irish hatred for British tyranny has not died out: it is more intense to-day than ever it was. The butcheries of Maxwell in Dublin, the murders at Batchelor's Walk, the persecution of Mrs. Sheehy-Skeffington have kindled the wrath of the millions in America who love Ireland and hate oppression, and never was there such universal feeling that the time has come when England must relax that tyrant's grasp in which, in the words of Queen Victoria, Ireland quivers. The blood of the Irish-American soldiers who have died in the war has sealed the President's pledges that justice must be done to all peoples, no matter whose selfish interests are crossed. And now, even if he proves false to his own words, the millions who have in no uncertain way made their will clear to him will not desert Ireland. Ireland may be left alone. The champions of small nations may be too engrossed in gathering up their gains to heed her cause. But Sinn Fein will never, never submit to English misrule, and if politicians prove false and if pledges are broken, the Irish people will fight their own cause to the end, backed by the Irish in the United States, who will insist that British Hun-

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