

as untrustworthy, put himself on a par with the scoundrel Piggott who forged letters in order to calumniate Ireland. Nobody accuses the *Otago Daily Times* of being accessory to "Civis's" guilt, but many people do wonder why a daily that aims at respectability still continues to allow the exposed falsifier to vent his anti-Irish and no-Popery spleen in its columns. Apparently the directors are not aware of the position he places them in; obviously they are blind to the fact that by tolerating such a man they are dragging down their paper to the level of rags like the *Nation* and the *Menace*, which will extend the hospitality of their columns to vile attacks on Ireland and the Catholic Church. When "Civis," and his one and only paper, the *Spectator*, had the audacity to tell their readers that the Americans had little or no sympathy for Irish freedom they were guilty of a falsehood so glaring that no man who has any knowledge of current history could ever trust either of them again. "Civis" has little respect for Irish bishops—whether for "old Moran" and "his pigs" or for Dr. Fogarty, who committed the unpardonable sin of expecting English statesmen to be serious when they promised to fight for the right of self-determination for small nations. But whatever "Civis" thinks, there are many people who will be glad to hear what are the views of an English bishop on the intense interest taken by Americans just now in the cause of oppressed Ireland. Writing in the *Dublin Review*, the Bishop of Northampton says:—

"It was our fixed intention, on leaving England, to avoid all political topics; and most of all the fatal topic of Irish self-government. But we were soon made aware, and that in the highest quarters, that reticence on this matter would be misconstrued. No appeal for co-operation between English-speaking Catholics would be listened to, we were told, unless Catholic England was prepared to express her sympathy, plainly and unreservedly with Catholic Ireland."

The Bishop goes on to tell how he felt bound, when addressing at Washington a distinguished audience, to make a declaration "which we thought represented faithfully the genuine sentiments of the vast majority of English Catholics, and which was accepted as satisfactory throughout America, except by the extreme partisans of the Clan-na-Gael." In this pronouncement he said:—

"But this I can say, that the British public generally, and British Catholics in particular, are determined that the findings of the Irish Convention shall not remain a dead letter. . . . The Red Hand of Ulster cannot be allowed to wreck any more statutes. *Ascendancy must end in Ireland as it must end in Prussia and elsewhere.*" [Italics ours.]

The following paragraph, from the *Glasgow Observer*, may also help to convince "Civis" that his *Spectator* man is but a "puir fool after a":—

"A *Daily News* correspondent (Mr. P. W. Wilson), writing from New York, emphasises the necessity of an Irish settlement if Anglo-American amity is to endure. 'The time has come for saying definitely that over Sir Edward Carson and Ulster, as over Lord Northcliffe, Britain must make a choice. She cannot have full English-speaking unity on Carson's terms. It is not only President Wilson who knows this. Roosevelt was equally assured of it, as are the Republicans, while Canada is undoubtedly affected.' If Lloyd George should surrender further or longer to Carson, then 'further defence of the British attitude towards Ireland is—declares Mr. Wilson—impossible on this side.'"

Rather on account of its interest than with any hope of educating our Dunedin Piggott, we quote the following, from the *New Witness*:—

"IRELAND AND PRESIDENT WILSON."

"Sir Francis Vane has asked us to publish the following letter:—'128 West Fifty-ninth Street, New York City, Good Friday, 1919.—Dear Sir Francis,—I have sent your interesting letter to the *Irish World*, which is still the historical Irish paper. I think both Roosevelt and Wilson were the wiser for your corre-

spondence. There is very little doubt on this side of the water now as to what happened in Ireland. Mr. Wilson is probably the best-informed man in the world on Irish affairs by now, and three of the most able Irish-Americans have gone to Paris to refresh his memory. The Irish have looked to Mr. Wilson, and I do not think it will be in vain. At least we have not the right to say 'in vain' until his tenure of the Presidency is closed. For two years longer he holds the whip-hand of the world. He has as yet done nothing against the Irish Cause, and showed himself marvelously sympathetic to the Irish Committee in New York. He made the unfortunate mistake, which can perhaps be attributed to having had to listen to Mr. Taft for an hour's speech, of refusing to meet Judge Cohalan, the Irish leader in America. As this incident has been well bruited in the English press it is only fair to add that the only other Irishman he declined to meet was Sir Edward Carson. It is fatuous to insist that he is Ireland's enemy. Apart from his determined desire to apply his theories to the whole world without exception, you have the remarkable prospect of an approaching Presidential election, in which Ireland may be the turning pivot. Before that momentous election comes, both England and America may see reason to insist on the Irish settlement. As to what that settlement may be, you are right in your criticism of any centre or middle party. On this side it is as well to face the cubical unquestioned quintessential facts. The time for all middle men has passed. The Irish in America will back only the Sinn Fein. Whatever concordat is made between Sinn Fein in Ireland and England will be honorably and everlastingly upheld in America. *Make it clear that no other settlement than one with Valera and MacNeill is possible. Whatsoever they bind in Dublin will be bound in New York; whatsoever they loose in Ireland will be loosed in America. For the Irish almost alone of peoples keep their word and abide their treaties.* [Italics ours.]—Yours sincerely, SHANE LESLIE."

The following extract from the *Dunedin Evening Star*, July 4, is a complete answer in itself to "Civis" and the *Spectator*:—"The *New York Times* Boston correspondent states that de Valera was given an enthusiastic reception by the Lower House of the Massachusetts State Legislature. He addressed a gathering on the aims of the Irish Republic. De Valera was enthusiastically received by at least 40,000 people at Fenway Park. De Valera read an address, in which he appealed to the United States to frame a new Covenant for the League of Nations, wherein Ireland will have a place among the free nations of the world. The Mayor of Boston welcomed de Valera."

America does apparently take interest in Ireland. In the light of the foregoing extracts it is clear how little the opinions of either "Civis" or his *Spectator* are worth, and it is evident that whatever else one may seek in "Civis" the truth is not to be found in him. We now give a report of a speech made recently at Wexford by Darrel Figgis, a Protestant Irishman, and we leave it to our readers to judge if it is likely that in the near future the interest of America in Irish freedom will be less than in the past. Couple with what Mr. Figgis says the remark of Shane Leslie that President Wilson does sympathise with Ireland and that he will for two years more hold the whip-hand over the world:—

"Mr. Darrel Figgis, lecturing in Wexford on Easter Sunday, said that if the nations neglected the acid test of Irish independence it might happen to eat its way through the whole fabric of imagined peace. The peace of the world could not be maintained otherwise than by a pact between England and America, and they in Ireland intended to see that there would be no peace between England and America until those nations recognised that Ireland was the acid test of their sincerity. He believed that if President Wilson had it in his power to-morrow to achieve Irish independence he would do it, but when he left Washington for Paris he was surrounded by a lot of old accomplished diplomats, who wove a net of words around