

Walsh's appointment as Archbishop of Dublin, nor can you speak of his brilliant success as an Irish leader, without giving the impression that the other candidate would have lowered the Irish flag or would have proved very pliable in the hands of the English Government. If the Government nominee had been chosen—this candidate whose appointment the Irish bishops so much feared—Government misrule would have had but small reason to love him, and Irish patriotism but small reason to fear him. You will say that that statement is justified when I tell you that the candidate in question was no other than the late Cardinal Moran of Sydney.

I am glad to see that his memory is still fresh here and that you have not forgotten his services to the Old Land. The Old Land itself—hierarchy, clergy, and people—made reparation to him a few years before his death when he received a welcome such as Ireland reserves for the very best and truest of her children. His life has not yet been written, but, among other things, it will reveal, no doubt, whether he would not have declined the See of Dublin rather than stand in the way of one that Ireland demanded. He was then Archbishop of Sydney. Had he been changed to Dublin, either willingly or unwillingly, whatever would have been the gain to Ireland, his loss to the Irish cause in these countries it is impossible to estimate. His devotion to Ireland is aptly touched on by my friend, Father Maurice O'Reilly, in a poem written immediately after his Eminence's death, and his tribute to my former chief I will adopt as my own—

When the crown
Of nationhood is placed upon thy brows,
So long encircled by a crown of thorns,
He shall be there, heroic Irish land,
He shall be there to witness thy reward.
He loved thee in thy dark and evil days;
He hoped for thee, when hoping seemed forlorn:
He smote thy base traducers everywhere;
He planted thy green standard in the South
And flew it from the limits of the world.

The Plan of Campaign

Another striking episode in the same period of Irish history is the condemnation of Boycotting and the Plan of Campaign. England has got the word "boycotting" from Ireland. It would have been well however, if she had taken from Ireland nothing but words. Captain Boycott was a bad landlord who was determined to make his unfortunate tenants pay excessive rents or else evict them from their poor holdings, "leaving them the wide world for their pillow." In self-defence, the tenants prevented shopkeepers from serving him, and laborers from working for him; they aimed, in a word, at coercing him into surrender. The same system was adopted by the tenants of other bad landlords, and the English language was thereby enriched by the word "boycott."

As another part of this system of self-protection, the tenants of those rackrenting landlords offered fair rents; and when those fair rents were refused, the money was given into the hands of the Irish Parliamentary Party who banked it in Paris. William O'Brien in his *Evening Memories* makes the boast that none of the money thus collected was unaccounted for, and he gives a number of instances in which heartless landlords were brought to their senses by that "plan."

Cardinal Persico

But the English Government was busy in Rome and misrepresented to the Vatican the methods being pursued in Ireland. Monsignor—later Cardinal—Persico was despatched to Ireland to study conditions. The impression he made upon the students of my college was that he was a poor, simple friar whom a little child could lead. We were not aware then that he had been on embassies of a similar description in India and Canada and the United States.

He interviewed bishops and archbishops in Ireland and received the most cordial hospitality. In my own town the streets through which he was driven to the college were decorated with branches of trees, and the houses also were made to look quite artistic, banners and pictures and evergreens co-operating to produce the impression of

a happy combination of town and country life. It was only for the representative of the Holy See that such enormous trouble would be taken. He interviewed the representative men also of the landlord party.

When his mission was at an end, we had not long to wait for the sequel. A message came from Rome and it stunned the friends of Irish liberty: Boycotting and the Plan of Campaign were condemned by the Church authorities.

The name of Persico became thereupon hateful to Irish ears. He abused our hospitality, we said, he allowed himself to be imposed upon by the deceitful tools of the Government, he believed the stories told him by iniquitous landlords and turned away from such reliable authorities as Archbishop Croke of Cashel, and Archbishop Walsh of Dublin.

After many years it comes to the knowledge of the world that Monsignor Persico's report was absolutely in favor of Ireland and that the Pope's message had been issued before his legate's report was received in Rome. English influence had been busy, English Catholics of the Norfolk type had joined with Government envoys, experts in the diplomatic art of cabunny, with the sad result that the Vatican was imposed on. The fruit of their evil work was soon lost, however, for a document was shortly afterwards issued which practically annulled the first.

Cardinal Manning's services through this crisis were unstintedly given to the Irish side. Monsignor Persico's letters to him show how keen were the legate's disappointment and indignation at the cruel trick played upon the Roman authorities. It was through Cardinal Manning that Monsignor Persico was exonerated from the charges universally made against him in Ireland. While he was being denounced for his abuse of Irish hospitality and for having given himself into the hands of the ascendancy party, the poor legate was eating away his heart in grief that he was deemed the enemy of a people whom he had grown to love and whose lot he was most desirous to sweeten. The Cardinal also was ready with his advice to the Irish Parliamentary Party when they undertook to point out to the Holy See that, while they accepted the principles laid down in the decree, they knew that the facts relied upon were based on misrepresentation. To quote William O'Brien:—

"The Party Meeting resulted in a declaration of Ireland's rights in temporal affairs, so firm as to make those apprehensive of a priest-ridden Ireland lift their eyebrows in amaze, and yet so conformable with Catholic doctrine that, before many months were over, the Irish Bishops received a fresh circular from Propaganda substantially cancelling the first."

A True Friend

Those are the main topics that a "talk" on "Cardinal Manning and Ireland" should, to my mind, embrace. During the whole of the stormy period of the Land League and its offshoots when Irish patriots were thrown into prison and when Irish archbishops and bishops were reported to Rome, and earlier still, when Cardinal Cullen was fighting for the abolition of the State Church in Ireland, and later still when the Parnellite split threatened to lay Ireland prostrate once again at the feet of her age-long enemy, Cardinal Manning declared himself a friend and proved himself a powerful ally of Ireland and pleaded her cause with Gladstone and protected her prelates in Rome.

If I have passed over in silence many of those stirring incidents, I have done so in order to save time for what seemed to me of more vital importance.

The Fenian movement deserved long treatment because of its many features of similarity to the Sinn Féin movement, the spirit of the men being much alike, the idealism, the valor, the purity of their motives being the main characteristics of the men of both. The Fenian movement taught Cardinal Manning that a broad and adequate treatment of Ireland would be needed to put an end to disaffection. Parnell was influenced by Fenianism to take up the cause of Ireland, and to attempt to remedy by constitutional means the evils that drove the men of Ireland to take up arms against the mighty power of England. Others also, perhaps Gladstone himself, were forced to think that there was something idiotic in the methods