

**St. Patrick's Night Concert.**

The concert held in St. Dunstan's Hall on St Patrick's evening under the auspices of the A. O. H. was a grand success. It was truly "a feast of reason and a flow of soul." Hanlon's orchestra led with many an enchanting and patriotic strain, and the actors, both men and women, Catholic and Protestant, acquitted themselves with great credit, calling forth encore after encore from the large and appreciative audience present.

The opening address by Father Corbett was a masterpiece of eloquence. He first went on to tell of heathen Ireland and the mission of St. Patrick with the gospel of Christ, which was readily accepted by the Irish people without the shedding of a tear or a single drop of blood. He then went on to recount the glorious history of 300 years when Ireland was:

"Great, glorious and free  
First flower of the earth and first gem of the sea."

The seat of Religion, Art and Science and the only bright spot in a world then sunk in more than cimmerian darkness. Then came the invasion of the Danes for 300 years more until finally defeated and driven from the country on the glorious field of Clontarf by the gallant leader, Brian Boru. Then followed the Norman invasion, which owing to disunion and disaffection among themselves they were unable altogether to overcome, and their gradual loss of power, freedom and in a measure civilization until their final subjugation to England and loss of political autonomy.

Over the dark days of the penal code he charitably draws a veil (no doubt out of consideration to men like us who feel the blood of these oppressors stinging in our veins.)

"When lying by the ocean side or stretched on mountain fern,  
The teacher and his pupils met FELONIOUSLY to learn,"

and the same price. (this is my selection and not in the rev. gentleman's address) was put upon the head of a priest as that of a wolf.

"Still faithful to their holy Church her direst straits among,  
To one another faithful still the priests and people clung;  
And God was worshipped and revered with trembling look and fear  
In field and wood, with posted scouts to warn of bloodhounds near."

Though the efforts to secure Home Rule by that Grand Old Man Gladstone and many other true hearted and despot hating Englishmen have come to nought, quite as much through the internal dissensions and disunion of the Irish themselves as the hostility of mitre and crown, let us hope that the star of Ireland's freedom and prosperity has not set, that Emmet's epitaph will at last be written and that "the Niobe of Nations" rising like Venus from the sea, and exchanging her ragged garments for a robe of authority shall look upon a happy, prosperous, contented and FREE people.

"When the Star of the West shall arise in its glory  
And the land that was darkest be brightest in story."

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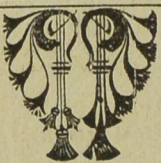
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