

ARRIVAL OF ARCHBISHOP WALSH

(The Nation, September 12.)

His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin, arrived at Kingstown from Holyhead at five o'clock on the evening of Friday week. An immense crowd of people lined the pier, and, as the steamer came to her moorings, a long-sustained and deafening outburst of cheering gave the initial welcome home to his Grace. There was a fearful pressure from priests and people as the gangway was lowered, and amongst the first to get aboard were the Very Rev. Monsignor Lee, Mr. T. Harrington, M.P., Mr. Michael Davitt, and Mr. J. E. Redmond, M.P. Two addresses were presented to the Archbishop on board the steamer—one from the Town Commissioners, the other from the Catholic and national inhabitants of Kingstown. His Grace then proceeded to Westland-row by special train, and here he was met by the Lord Mayor in state and the members of the Corporation in their robes. The address of welcome was read by Mr. Beveridge, the Town Clerk. To this address his Grace replied as follows:—

"It is with no ordinary feeling of gratification that I endeavour to discharge the duty of thanking you for this address, the warmth and heartiness of which you have so specially emphasised by surrounding its presentation with the splendour of your civic state. Gratefully indeed I accept your address and thank you for it, presented to me as it is with every feeling, I am sure, of personal kindness, but also, and much more so, as a tribute of your respect shown in my person to the sacred dignity with which I have been invested. Your official communication has assured me that the civic welcome thus accorded to me is the unanimous act of our municipal body. Need I say to you that my action in reference to it would be very different if it had come to me in any other way—if, for instance, it could be regarded as a party triumph, or as the act of an inconsiderate majority of the council, trampling on the feelings and outraging the susceptibilities of the non-Catholic members who form the minority of your body? I do not go the length of saying that even if your act had been such as I have thus described you could not have pleaded in justification, or at all events in extenuation of it, much that is to be found in the past history of the Corporation of Dublin. You have found it, indeed, in the records of those very proceedings when, for the assertion of some dominant political creed, the Lord Mayor and civic officers of the day went forth in solemn state, even as you have come upon the kindly mission of this evening. But it is not for us to copy the bad example so freely set for us in days that every citizen of Dublin, I trust, would now wish had never found a place in the annals of our city. A people claiming the name and dignity of a nation must prove, not merely by words, but still more by the acts of its public men, that it has the self-restraint which, especially in matters where religious feeling comes into play, will guard with the most delicate care against all that could savour of disregard of the sincere conviction of even the smallest minorities amongst its citizens. And so, if I may contemplate the case of this address being tendered to me in any other spirit than that which I feel assured has guided you in reference to it from first to last, I should feel constrained, not merely on religious grounds and from a sense of what I owe my sacred office, but also as a citizen of Dublin (loud cheers), placed by virtue of that office in a position of high civic as well as religious responsibility, to decline its acceptance. But I feel that on many grounds I may safely take a very different view indeed of the proceedings of to-day. Amongst those who took part even in the preparation of the address were some members of your body whose religious convictions do bar them from recognising any duty of spiritual allegiance to a Catholic bishop (hear, hear). And I have no reason to believe that those other non-Catholic members of your body who were absent on the occasion were influenced by any other feeling than that of an unwillingness to mar by the presence of any element of discord the unanimity of a proceeding to which they were in no way opposed, but in which they did not feel themselves in a position to take an assenting part. I feel, then, my Lord Mayor, that to this extent at least I am justified in including in my expression of thanks every member of your municipal body (cheers). You assure me that to you, as representatives of the municipality of Dublin and guardians of its interests, it is a source of pride and gratification that a native of the city of Dublin has been elected to fill the see of Saint Laurence (loud and prolonged cheers). I accept this assurance all the more gratefully that it comes to me from a body which in the conferring of its own highest honours has never allowed itself to be swayed by any narrow consideration of the accident of birth. To say nothing of the many former acts of the kind to which I could refer, I am reminded by the presence here to-day, my lord, of the worthy gentlemen who has been chosen to succeed you in your high office, that, even in its latest nomination to the civic chair, the members of the Council of Dublin have with graceful unanimity selected for that place of dignity one to whom Dublin unfortunately can lay no claim (loud cheers). And now, my Lord Mayor, without needlessly trespassing on your time to disclaim the language of eulogy with which your address has indeed embarrassed me. I hasten to assure you of my full and ardent sympathy with the wishes expressed in its closing words. With me it is no new theory of to-day or yesterday, but a settled and deeply-rooted conviction, that for the many grievances for the removal of which the people of this island have so long laboured with but partial success there is but one effectual remedy—the restoration to Ireland of that right of which we were deprived, now nigh a century ago, by means as shameful as any that the records of national infamy can disclose (loud and prolonged cheers). I rejoice, then, with you that the flag which fell from the dying hands of O'Connell has once more been boldly uplifted, and I pray that it may never again be unfurled until the right of Ireland is recognised to have her own laws made here upon Irish soil, and by the legally and constitutionally chosen representatives of the Irish people (loud and prolonged cheers). I have thought it right, my Lord Mayor, thus freely to avail myself of the opportunity which your address afforded me of expressing plainly and without reserve

my personal opinion on this question of vital importance, as I regard it, for the future welfare of our country. For it has been, if I mistake not, the usage of the venerated prelates who preceded me in this See of Dublin—as it is, indeed, the usage of our Irish bishops, I may say, without exception—to express with the utmost freedom their opinions on the great political questions of the day (cheers). But as I have done so on this occasion I must, in conclusion, add one other word. Among the Catholics of Dublin there are, and will be, as there have ever been in the past, as strongly marked differences of opinion in political matters as there are amongst the citizens generally in their religious creeds. I wish, then, to proclaim, once for all, at the very outset of my episcopal labours—and nowhere, surely could I find a more fitting opportunity of proclaiming it than here where I am being formally welcomed on my entrance to my episcopal see—that in every relation of my pastoral office—in the house which is henceforth to be my home, in the cathedral which will be the chief centre of my episcopal labours—in a word, in every scene and sphere of my duties—I shall, with God's help, know no difference between those whose views on public affairs are most thoroughly in sympathy with mine, and those from whose honest opinions my own are most widely divergent (cheers)—ever bearing in mind that I have been placed here by the Sovereign Pontiff as Archbishop of Dublin, and thus as the pastor and spiritual father, not of any section or class, no matter how numerous or how powerful, but of all our Catholic people (loud and prolonged cheers)."

ARCHBISHOP WALSH'S RECEPTION.

(Special Correspondence of the Pilot.)

DUBLIN, September 4.—Archbishop Walsh arrived in Dublin to-day and was given an enthusiastic ovation. The whole population turned out to honour the prelate of the nation's choice. Upon his arrival at Kingstown the Archbishop was met by local bodies of Nationalists which presented him with addresses of welcome. The Archbishop, replying to the addresses, said he had placed before the Pope the wants, wishes, aims and desires of the Irish people, with whom the Pope expressed himself as being in full sympathy. The representations of the Irish prelates to His Holiness made impossible in the future a misrepresentation of Ireland's cause.

Branches of the National League in Dublin, County Wicklow and Kildare sent deputations to Dublin to receive the patriot Archbishop. The Irish members of Parliament were present in force, and priests from all parts of Ireland. It was understood that Archbishop Walsh had declined to receive any gift of money from the people, as his predecessor had generously anticipated the need and provided against it. The late Cardinal McCabe, four or five years before his death, made a will, and bequeathed to his successor whatever he possessed—not only the house in which he resided, but furniture, books, plate, carriages, horses, and whatever money remained after claims upon it were satisfied.

The text of the address presented to the Archbishop was as follows:—

"We, your devoted flock, clergy and laity of the Diocese of Dublin, hasten to offer to Your Grace our warm congratulations on your coming to take possession of the chair of your illustrious predecessor, St. Laurence O'Toole (applause), a chair placed on the Rock, against which the combined powers of earth and hell shall not prevail. That Rock is Peter, and his lawful successors, in whom Peter still lives. We address you our Archbishop, as one whose antecedents have pointed you out as eminently fitted for the high office to which you have been raised by the Providence of God and the favour of the Apostolic See (applause). Your distinguished career as a student of the Catholic University of Ireland and of our National College at Maynooth; your learning and ability, as proved by the manner in which you discharged your professional duties in the world-renowned Alma Mater of the great body of the Irish priesthood; your successful administration as president of that college—one of the largest and most learned in the Church; the elevation given during a recent period to the clergy and to the people of this Diocese by your patient endurance whilst calumny after calumny was heaped upon you by a section of the public Press (loud applause), not in sympathy with the Catholics of Ireland; these and much more, which, to be brief, we must admit, afford us a well-grounded hope and expectation that in the ability, prudence and zeal with which you will administer the ecclesiastical affairs of this Diocese, you will prove yourself a worthy successor of a long line of Apostolic Prelates with which God has blessed the Diocese of Dublin. We rejoice in a special manner that your appointment has put an end, and we hope for ever, to any attempt to revive discussion on the hateful question of the veto (loud and continued applause), on which the bishops, priests and people of Ireland had, with the concurrence of the Sovereign Pontiff pronounced an emphatic, and we had hoped, a lasting condemnation nearly 70 years ago (loud applause). It is meet that your flock, clergy and laity, should turn to you, their father in Christ, not in their spiritual concerns only, but in their temporal troubles and difficulties as well, and that they should ask you to be the partner of their sorrows as well as of their joys. We do so now with a good heart as a gleam of brightness is dissipating the dark night of our affliction. The recent past has accomplished much for our country, and given promise of the achievement of many needed reforms and ameliorations in a not distant future. Our system of primary education is based on a vicious principle, and is not suited to the requirements of the class for whose benefit it is intended (applause). In the higher departments of education, distributive justice is grossly violated by our rulers. In consequence of repeated confiscations and the operation of unjust land laws, our rural population has been impoverished, and driven by hundreds of thousands from their homes into exile; these laws have been to a large extent modified, but much remains still to be accomplished (applause). The Providence of God has blessed our country, its land and water, with an abundance of natural and industrial resources. These resources have been deliberately and persistently neglected by