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best mental disciplines; it strengthens the memory, improves the reasoning faculty, and matures the judgment.

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TIONAL TO

CHARLES STEWART PARNELL

Offices Irish-Australian Federal Counc St. Patrick's Hall, Melbourne, 10th November, 1883.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE IBISH RACE IN AUSTRALASIA. Fellow-Colonists,—

Fellow-Colonists,—
The chief work of the Convention held on the 7th November was to appoint a Federal Council, whose duty it is to conserve and promote Irish National interests. At the first meeting of the Council, its members, acting upon a resolution of the Convention, resolved to take advantage of the favourable opportunity now presented of uniting Irish-Australians in that great movement the object of which is to attest the gratitude and attachment of the Irish people to their great leader, Charles Stewart Parnell.

It is strictly within the score of its duties that the Council should

It is strictly within the scope of its duties that the Council should carnestly recommend all the branches of the Irish National League in the Australasian colonies to heartily assist in raising a contribution to the National Tribute that will be commensurate with the importance attached to the subject in Convention. If Mr. Parnell's services were alone in question these would entitle him to the most generous mark of appreciation and gratitude his countrymen could bestow on him. Within a few years, under his guidance, Ireland has been raised from prostration to strength and self-reliance, and material advantages incomparably larger than had been gained by any previous been raised from prostration to strength and self-reliance, and material advantages incomparably larger than had been gained by any previous agitation in the century have been won for her people. But the though weighty, are not the weightiest considerations by which the Iriah at home or abroad should be influenced. The tribute will be national in a much broader sense than if it were but a grateful acknowledgment of personal services. It will be the answer of our race to the foul efforts that have been made to damn with falsehood the character of our leader; it will be our protest against "a system of defamation unparalleled in political warfare"; it will be a pledge of our unshaken trust in the integrity of the man who has been vilified because he is both faithful and strong; and, lastly, it will be a solemn promise to heartily support the National cause of which he is the representative. These are the broad considerations which, in the opinion of the Federal Council, attach grave importance to this movement as a manifestation of the National will and purpose; and these are the grounds on which the Branch League are now requested to take immediate steps for raising the Australasian contribution to the National Tribute. the National Tribute.

The Federal Council fraternally congratulates the members of the Irish National League in Australasia on the great success the Convention achieved, and in the name of Ireland calls upon them to continue faithful to the purpose to which their representatives pledged them.

Subscriptions collected by the several branches, to be remitted to the Treasurer of the Federal Council, Mr. Joseph Winter, for transmission to Ireland.

Signed on behalf of the Federal Council of the Irish National

League of Australasia,

KEVIN IZOD O'DOHERTY, President, J. G. O'CONNOR, FRANCIS LONGMORE JOSEPH WINTER, Hon. Treasurer. MICHAEL M'DONALD, Hon. Secretary.

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