

Ld. Maura to Col. McKahow

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Wilmington  
Dec 22 1876.

Thank God, my dear friend, you are enjoying a little tranquillity & sea air. You are not, however, out of reach of Liberty Bells; and I assure you tho' it is more to indulge in our propensity of commencing with you than for my business. Some time ago, Foster (of Lubbock's House) asked me to propose to the Prince to become President of the Lincoln Society. I said that, acting as Sovereign of the Country, the Prince ought to be Patron not President. Foster replied that he thought the Charter indicated nothing but a President: to which I rejoined

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that the Prince could not be enrolled as a beneficiary  
in any society & that he should be taken as nothing. I hope  
the distinction was right.

The account of what took place at the Catholic  
Meeting has not yet reached me. The paper by word  
is dispersed of course. I do not apprehend it, but  
there may be circumstances, on such occasions, con-  
-tributing to evening the dissatisfaction already  
-entertained; therefore I look with anxiety for the  
-renovation. You must have learned from your bro-  
-ther the lamentable persuasion adopted by the Ca-  
-tholics that the Prince has espoused all the hosts

-bit of his Cabinet towards them. His conviction is so  
strong that if it be irradicable by any subsequent  
proceedings our luck will be better than what I reckon  
upon. See what this goes to. The Catholics compose at  
least five sixths, & by far the most active part,  
of the Population of Ireland. As Irishmen usually  
they were embittered by past grievances against  
England. The belief that the Prince favored their  
just pretensions afforded the hope of a more equi-  
-table Government & suspended their animosity.  
That prospect is now dispelled. Nothing checks  
their misconstruction of England. And the Protestants

with the miserable exception of the Corporation of Dub-  
-lin, the Castle Dependents, & the By the Altars, instigate  
the ferment of the Catholics; some from seeing no secur-  
-ity from their property but in joining so inces-  
-sible a mass, others by way of avenging themselves  
on the Prince for political disappointment.

And truly it requires no sagacity, or peculiar pers-  
-picacity to distinguish whether all this is trading.

Men in that humor never calculate their  
-solid & ultimate advantage; they look to nothing  
but the way in which they can wound those with

when they are irritated. It is therefore idle to think  
 that such folks will be deterred from listening to  
 Bonaparte because of his treacheries exhibited else-  
 where. They will listen to him; they do listen to him,  
 & the storm will burst upon us as it did on the  
 Prussians who thought him good listening fellow,  
 every day march from their camp on the very  
 morning in which he was to subvert their banners.  
 All the preparations opposite to usury & pecuniary  
 are reproducible & helms, either as destined active  
 instruments, or as means or your interference with

the efforts to be made for other quarters. As important as the matter may appear, the recent appointments in Ireland are not indifferent. There is nothing to object to Wall for the bishopric: but the restoration of the Prebendary in Eltington (especially against such a candidate as he) has had very injurious effects; for Eltington had no recommendation but the influence of his language & his publications respecting the Catholics. The latter respecting regard his

elevation as the record of his dispositions against them; & there is no explaining away so prominent a fact to the multitude who regard it as the display of the Pope's influence.

D'Alington's dispatch is quite sufficient to settle my opinions about him. They were formerly made up before; but now by judgment he is not one floating doubt.

Yours faithfully  
 Charles G. ...  
 I shall direct this to London

but you may have been suddenly called up, tho' I trust so-  
-thing will occur to interrupt your enjoyment of your  
retreat. My Lady can join me in best compliments to  
her husband.

Lord & Maria

Oct. 22. 1811