

# THE CONVENTION OF THE IRISH RACE,

TO BE HELD IN PHILADELPHIA,

ON JUNE 28TH, 1880.

The Call for this Convention has been signed by about five hundred men, representing all the States of the Union, and all the counties of Ireland. Some five hundred others who received circulars, express their regrets that they cannot conveniently attend, but they promise their hearty co-operation with any movement that will be inaugurated towards assisting the Irish nation to release itself from the death-grasp of its tyrant, and a few of them have sent money as a guarantee of their sincerity.

In deference to the wishes of many subscribers to the call, who say there are other conventions to be held on the 22d and 24th of June, the Committee in Philadelphia postpone the business of opening of our Irish Convention to the morning of Monday, the 28th of June. The spacious hall of the National Guards, on Race street, below Sixth, has been engaged for the entire week.

A Reception Committee will attend at the Hall of the Sheares' Club, 8th & Walnut Sts., every day, except Sunday, from the 24th to the 28th, to receive delegates, and direct them to the hotels.

Several men who have signed the call, have in their letters, expressed an opinion that it would be well to have this Convention open to every honest, earnest man of Irish blood, who desired to assist in raising the old land from slavery to independence. The members of the Committee hold the same opinion, yet they adhere to the conditions of the first circular, as they believe an earnest, honest man in any town in America will have very little difficulty in getting ten of his neighbors to endorse him as a delegate to the Convention, and that endorsement will be taken by the Committee as an assurance and a guarantee that he comes in no factious spirit. We implore all to leave that factious spirit behind them, and to leave the "crotchets" also behind. The past is dead, and we would bury with it the bitternesses that grow on the grave of our failures.

If we are not prepared to do this, we have learned no lesson for Ireland's good; and he who would come to this Convention bringing with him a hatchet to "kill" an old enemy, if he'd meet him there, had better stay at home. To revive the past is but to renew defeat. We would have an act of oblivion over everything resulting from mistake and incapacity, and would commence the struggle anew, on this 28th of June, 1880, determined to *meet the enemy with his own weapons*. The "civilized" world and the men of "honorable warfare" allow our enemy to use dynamite—as he used in Zululand this year—to scatter his enemies, while we are condemned to fight him with the farcical "tall talk" and the fabled "tufts of grass."

We enclose a second copy of this circular, that may be given to any Irishmen or society of Irishmen in your neighborhood, who would desire to send a representative to the Convention.

We desire to be informed on or before the first of June of the name of the delegate or delegates who will attend from your locality. Address United Irishmen, Post-office Box 1965, Philadelphia, Pa.

With high hopes for the future of the sacred cause of human freedom, we remain,

EDWARD P. DEMPSEY, Dublin; PATRICK MALLON, Tyrone; MICHAEL O'DONNELL, Donegal; JOHN O'FARRELL, Waterford; EDWARD CUMMINS, Limerick; JOHN REGAN, Roscommon; PATRICK MURPHY, Armagh; JAMES CASSERLY, Cavan; JOSEPH W. LYNCH, Dublin; PATRICK GIBSON, Londonderry; JER. O'DONOVAN ROSSA, Cork; MATTHEW J. WHYTE, Wexford; JAMES O'BRIEN, Limerick; MICHAEL FAY, Cavan; PETER PAUL MULVEY, Dublin; COL. JAMES O'REILLY, Cavan; PETER H. FOYE, Sligo; E. T. DILLON, Mayo; JOHN K. FORD, America; T. L. CASSERLY, Cavan; THOMAS MELLON, Armagh; THOMAS LORAN, Kildare; WILLIAM CUSACK, Tipperary; CORNELIUS FOLEY, Cork.

PHILADELPHIA, April 28, 1880.

*Forms that may be used in Delegating a man to the Convention:*

(FOR SOCIETIES.)

*We, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, of Spencer, Massachusetts, delegate John O'Neill to the Convention of the Irish Race, to be held in Philadelphia, on June 28th, 1880.*

(Signed by ten men.)

[FOR MEN OF IRISH BLOOD.]

*We, who are men of the Irish Race, in the neighborhood of Leadville, Colorado, delegate Thomas Kavanagh to attend the Convention, to be held in Philadelphia, on June 28th, 1880.*

(Signed by ten men.)



Oh! breathe not his name, let it <sup>sleep</sup> rest in the shade  
Where cold and unhonored his Relics are laid.

Those were the words, Reverend Chairman, Ladies  
and Gentlemen, that the immortal ~~Irish~~ poet  
Thomas Moore, spoke <sup>in reference and in reference to my request</sup> of the immortal Irish  
patriot Robert Emmet whose memory we are  
assembled here tonight to honor.

"I have but one request to ask at my  
departure from this world," said he; "it is the  
Charity of its silence. Let no man write my  
epitaph; for, as no man who knows my notions  
does not vindicate them; let not prejudice or  
ignorance asperse them. Let them rest in  
obscurity and peace; my memory be left  
in oblivion, and my tomb remain unscrubbed,  
until other times and other men can do  
justice to my character. When my Country  
takes her place among the Nations of the  
Earth, then, and not till then, let my  
epitaph be written."