## CITY BULLETIN.

### Message of the President of the Fenian Brotherhood.

The National Fenian Congress, now in session in this city, had under consideration yesterday the message of the president, Gen. John O'Neill. The message is a lengthy document, covering the topics of boycott, etc. The president says:

*Brothers:* In addressing you on the opening of the Seventh National Congress of the Fenian Brotherhood, it is my pleasing duty to congratulate you upon the flourishing condition in which the Brotherhood will be found—a condition that eminently fits it for the accomplishment of the great work for which it was designed, and for which the measures necessary for its completion will occupy your deliberations.

General O'Neill then alludes to the fruitless attempts made to separate the cause for a set of the two branches of the Brotherhood, ex-President Roberts refusing to be favorably with a view to that object. But though much valuable time and efforts that, if applied directly to the cause we have at heart, would have given us unquestionable advancement, were thus wasted, the effort was not wholly lost. It showed where the true spirit of patriotism existed, and marked the contrast between it and the false pretence which demagogues parade before the world in the name of Ireland, only to increase their own importance and heighten their value in the political auction mart.

More important still, it has shown that the people of Ireland, both here and at home, have but one object in view—the redemption of our common fatherland—we are united in the true sense of the term; that is, organization to achieve the glorious object, has thus at last lost; and that as organization is union and strength perfected, our highest duty is to extend and strengthen the national body in which we are labouring, and which is dearer to the only hope of our suffering brethren at home, and the object that inspires the energy of our race with the hope of the retribution due to her crimes against the Irish people.

And here, brothers, it is proper that I should congratulate you, and through you the true patriotism of Ireland, upon the happy events which have given to our country an organization so complete and solid, and so well adapted to succeed in all its workings and tendencies, as the Fenian Brotherhood has proved itself.

General O'Neill pays a high compliment to Col. Roberts for the excellent manner in which he left the organization on his retirement from the Presidency. He then alludes to the organization made to him when in the ranks, concerning its management and resources, most satisfactory and true in the strictest sense. The constitution of the Brotherhood was framed by no and sanctioned by every official of the organization, and has thus proved the safeguard of its perpetuity and stability, while it defended its integrity against individual caprice and ambition.

The wisdom and forethought of its framers were proved by the fidelity and cheerfulness with which it was obeyed by the Brotherhood, scattered over the whole of the American continent, thus giving to the Fenian Brotherhood the character of an established representative government, whose foundations, laid on the eternal elements of patriotism, are permanent and indestructible; and which, while possessing the power to inflict only a nominal moral penalty on those under its sway, exercises a moral influence on themselves an unhesitating obedience to its laws such as despotic governments can only dream of by the exhibition of armed force.

Such an organization may be fittingly styled the first step of the Irish people towards self-government. And then, in addition to these glorious attributes which mark a government created by the people for their own preservation and advantage, it grasps and holds in its hand the sure thunderbolt of war against the only *power* the Irish people have reason to be justified in claiming that our organization is to be the true type and representative of that nationality against which the power of England has been exerted in vain for ages.

And as it has by its attitude of preparation, and almost without a charge being made, compelled the statesmen of Britain to concede the entire case of Irish amnesty, so it will force them to the iniquity and injustice of their dealing with our people, when the time for the struggle, and not the hour of action, it will compel the military satraps of the foreigner to relax the grasp upon the soil which belongs to our Irish people, which should be the free inheritance of the Irish people forever.

To achieve this glorious object; to give to the Irish people, without bloodshed or war on their children, the control of their own affairs, the shaping of their destiny as a nation, is the sole object of the Fenian Brotherhood. We aim at the ascendancy of no party or sectarian power of our race, especially we here in America assume no right to dictate to our brethren at home, or to shape the course in any way, save as far as we can help them on the road to liberty. We do not even, in the end that within our native land there shall be recognized no political power save that which comes from the free consent of the people, and that residing within the boundaries and knit in fealty to her by the ties of nature, geography, the progress of civilization and the boasted enlightenment and humanitarianism of the present, has have made but little difference in the relations between our people and the oppressors, as the so-called union with England signifies only serfdom in its own secret dungeons.

Among those who will cling to the ties of home is unless perverted or color, a good proportion of the avenues of trade and commerce, and rendering impossible the development of our national resources, except to enrich our oppressors.

I remember the last destitution perennial and irremediable by snatching from the offer of the best the fruits of the labor, against the decree of God ordained for the support of man, and that even in the sweat of his brow no Irishman shall eat bread till the usurper, whether the pampered lord tyrant have been satisfied.

It is we think that we have made such a power talk of justice to Ireland through the instrumentality of English legislation, that the so called Norman robber, relying upon our heritage wars and conquest and massacres, will not be he thus despoiled, is fittingly represented to day by the similar Judge upon the bench, by the packed juries and a powerful law, consigning Irish patriots to the felon's dungeon, the felon's scaffold, and again blasphemously setting aside Heaven's own order of which the immortal revolution to native land the highest duty of man next to that he owes his Creator.

General O'Neill then considers the absurdity of regarding the man returned to the English Parliament as representative of the Irish people. With scarcely an exception they present themselves in advance as subservient tools of one or the other of the two great parties—Whig and Tory—to whom the Irish people are indifferent, and they ask to be sent to parliament, not to represent Ireland or her interests, but to sustain the policy of an English Prime Minister.

If been memorial Parliament, as elected, be Irish representatives, their proper place is in Ireland, to legislate there under the eye of the people for Irish interests. One section of them, indeed, seem to act as if, in addition to their proclaim themselves "Conservatives," looking only to the maintenance of the English garrison with all that appertains to it.

The doctrine that governments exist and should rule only by the consent and for the benefit of the governed, has been so frequently proclaimed by England, that it would be idle to argue it as against her.

She has also held the further deduction from this theory that nationalities with marked and ineffaceable characteristics, differing widely from those by which they were surrounded, should be guaranteed in their individual integrity and permitted to control their own destiny. This doctrine, which she has found so useful in her rivals, may be fittingly presented for her own acceptance and practice in the case of Ireland. And to that end I would recommend that your honorable body should appoint a committee of a commission to place themselves in communication with the representatives of the English Government and in the name of the Irish people to demand the immediate and unqualified acknowledgment of the independence of Ireland.

You can do so with more effect and propriety, because you stand to-day in the position of a people, who, having been robbed of their rights, and refused the redress their wrongs called for, are preparing to recover by force what which forbids the effusion of blood, except as an unavoidable necessity, justify you in the last effort to avert, by negotiation, the calamities and sufferings which war, even when waged in an honest cause, inevitably brings in its train.

The statement and publicists of England themselves admit that even should she succeed in crushing our efforts, she has lost control over the national strength, her commerce, and her prosperity must be incalculably, while the drain upon her resources from the hostility of the Irish elements in the United States must remain in the ascendancy as ever. It is in her power to avoid this danger by rendering to our people at home the justice she has too long withheld from them, and by practicing towards them that fair dealing she has so often preached to other nations.

Should she refuse your demands, your position will be immediately strengthened before the world, and when you draw the sword your blows will fall with all the greater effect. Mankind at large will acknowledge your cause to be just, and that you have but exhausted the arbitrament of war as a last resort. You will also have accomplished a great work towards strengthening and encouraging your own people at home by presenting to them the dignity of their cause, when advanced to the spirit in which it should be brought forward, and placing before them the example of their own kindred in the attitude of men who know the value of the freedom they seek, and are prepared to act as men should who are worthy to be free.

There is no time to be lost, for while with one hand you present for the achievement of your enemy the charter of Irish rights, with the other you will still grasp the ready sword to cut the bonds of the English connection should her statesmen refuse to loose the bonds from which we demand your emancipation now at the opening of O'Neill then refers to the parallel course which the American colonies pursued before consummating the revolution.

To-day England stands ready to concede to the present generation of the Irish people that rights and liberties which she refused to those that preceded them, and her prime minister is the man who have forced the measure upon her. Yet, I have wrong from her the conclusion that English government of Ireland has proved as great a failure as the English Law Church, and that a radical alteration can no longer be avoided. It seems only that the pressure on you have begun, and the most glorious success that our hearts could desire, crown our efforts.

The reports of the Secretary of Military Affairs and the Adjutant-General will lay before you the state of the military organization, the progress made in its perfection, the present armament, and the immediate requirements of that most important branch of the Brotherhood. I trust it may be permitted to say in a few words, that I have never been in a more hopeful position for commencing the great struggle for Irish freedom, and that while I have been absent from prior to many of the Powers acknowledged by the world as governments and independent, I have awaits the orders of the representatives of the Irish people to have the Brotherhood in a position stands between us and the freedom of our native land.

Gen. O'Neill concludes as follows:

I have not spoken of the injury have been guided solely by devotion to the cause of our native land, and have been so far from seeking to make a personal profit, that I have never before been schelved by any Irish patriotic organization, and I trust that I have ever been and determined to persevere to the end, we bid farewell to the land of our birth, and exile for their brethren in the New World, who have stood by them in the past, will be true to them in every respect, and the national flag which our brotherhood has adopted, and which, I trust, shall never be lowered till we can plant it in the capital of our country, shall be the Jolly of Old Ireland.

JOHN O'NEILL,
President of the Fenian Brotherhood.

GERMAN HOSPITAL.—The annual visitation to this institution, located at Twentieth and Norris street, was made on Thursday last by the Board of Managers, with the physicians attached to the Hospital and the representatives of the press. The visitors were conducted through the entire range of buildings, examining with care and attention the various wards, the apothecary and other departments. From the statements furnished by the Resident Physician, Dr. Miller, it appears to have been admitted into the institution for the twelve months ending November 20th, 1868, patients, of which 198 were males and 34 females. Of the 198 males, 151 were admitted for the first time. Of the 34 females, 21 were medical and 13 were surgical cases. The whole number of patients was 150, or 64.5 per cent. of those relieved and which left the Hospital 29, or 12.60 per cent. The number of deaths was 27, or 11.60 per cent. Deducting 18 cases, which were entirely hopeless when into our care, the mortality was 7.70 per centage of 7.07, which compares favorably with the mortality in the City of Philadelphia. The ages are at present but 18 patients in the wards, 17 of which are males and 1 female. Some of these have been so many as 42 patients at one time under treatment.

The buildings and grounds are in excellent condition, and reflect great credit upon the steward. The institution was organized eight years since, but has accomplished a great deal from placing the same in an effective working condition in consequence of the encouragement it receives as a United States Military Hospital during the war, and for some considerable time thereafter, known as the "German Soldiers' Lane Hospital. The past two years the building has been used for the legitimate purpose for which they were designed, and the institution is conducted with marked success.

The present buildings are found to be inadequate at times for the accommodation of patients for admission, and are long measures will be taken to remedy this defect. Adjoining commodious buildings, commemorate to the wants, Joseph M. Richards, who was one of the first to aid in the first organized, still retains the position. Although the institution is styled the German Hospital, it receives patients of all nations, creeds, or colors, admits patients without regard to nationality, creed or color, a good proportion of which are treated gratuitously.

SINGULAR DISCOVERY OF A FORGERY.—On Wednesday last a young man, aged twenty years, named Addison Oxler, alias James Miller, alias Stewart Hosner, was arrested at Sixth and Chestnut streets by Reserve Officer Dawson, for being intoxicated and threatening to shoot somebody. He was taken to the station house and held. On being taken to the station-house and searched, a pocket-book was found on his person, containing $1,000 in money, a cashier's check of the First National Bank of Altoona for $4,000, and a check on the Mechanics' National Bank of New York for $2,000. The latter was dated November 20th, and the last November 18th. Besides these, there were also two pay watches and a burglar pistol, used for inserting in doors or windows. The cashier's check of the forged check, and the forgery was discovered by the Cashier of the Altoona Bank, and that while the forger was at Altoona, he was arrested in Philadelphia, and that the forged check was cashed at the Mechanics' Bank in New York. The forger