

GEORGE (Henry)

Copy of the letter to
Rev. Father Dawson, of Oct. 1st, 1882.

My dear Father:-

Have been hoping to bring my wife down your way, but fear must give it up now. We sail from Queenstown on Thursday morning by Helvetia, expect to leave Dublin tomorrow, but as I hear the Bishops are to be here Tuesday, may possibly wait. We regret not being able to say good bye; for we all have learned to regard you with very warm feelings.

Wish I could reply to yours at length; but let me say --

1. Such little differences, if they exist do not affect the general fact.
2. By Christendom I do not mean the Church; but Europe, and I fully recognize the fact that the Church itself has never taught the divine right of kings, etc.
3. I agree with you.
4. I did not know that the "robe of derision" etc. would have grated or I would not have used it. But I did not intend to even suggest any compassion, but to speak of Our Lord as the highest example of a principle. This is what I think your Church does constantly. I wish I had time to speak of this more fully.
5. The statement on p. 470 (of "Progress and Poverty") is I think historically true. But I do not think this implies that the Church is not a divine institution. Is it not the true Catholic view that the Church is so to speak a soul in a body - the one divine the other earthly. And that that external or human part may and has been at times much corrupted I think you will agree.

6. There is the difficulty in the phrase of which you speak; but on the whole I think it best to use it. People will misunderstand until they take the trouble to understand.

I have tried to explain whenever I get opportunity.

Yes; the movement has begun, and will go on. I believe  there is in it a force greater than that of men.

Yours sincerely,

Henry George.



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