

**AN APOLOGY FOR
THE ESTABLISHED
CHURCH IN IRELAND**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649052509

An Apology for the Established Church in Ireland by Henry Newland

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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HENRY NEWLAND

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APOLOGY *33*
FOR THE
ESTABLISHED CHURCH
IN IRELAND;

BEING
AN ATTEMPT TO PROVE THAT ITS PRESENT STATE IS MORE PURE
THAN IN ANY PERIOD
SINCE THE REFORMATION;
IN
A SERIES OF LETTERS
ADDRESSED TO THE
EARL OF MOUNTCASHEL.

BY THE
REV. HENRY NEWLAND, B. D.
VICAR OF BANNOW.



DUBLIN :
WILLIAM CURRY, JUN., AND COMPANY;
AND HURST, CHANCE, AND CO., LONDON.

1829.

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Printed by R. GRASPERY.

APOLOGY

FOR

THE CHURCH IN IRELAND.

INTRODUCTORY LETTER.

My Lord,

To be addressed by a minister of the Established Church without any apology for prefixing your name to this Letter, cannot be deemed extraordinary, when it is remembered, that you presided at a meeting in the city of Cork, at which so many circumstances connected with the interests of our national religion were discussed.

Of the wisdom of having convened that meeting, your Lordship may remain in undisturbed possession. Your feelings of conscientious satisfaction are not likely to be agitated by any reproaches of mine; yet I may be permitted to declare, that I cannot comprehend the quality of the sincerity which so

frequently you promulgate for the Church of England.

I have not the honour of being personally known to your Lordship; therefore, as to the justifiableness of your aspersions on the ministers and Church of this country, I am compelled to come to a definite conclusion by a comparison of the real state of the question, with the charges which, with an unsparing hand, you have heaped upon the administration of our ecclesiastical affairs. The public mind too, will thus, I hope, be enabled to measure your reproaches of general dereliction of duty on the part of the Established Clergy, with my specific and unvarnished elucidation of facts.

Before I enter into a formal contradiction of your multifarious allegations, there are two points of, perhaps, minor importance, to which I solicit your attention.

The first is, that the meeting at Cork was not attended by your compeers in rank, nor even by the general body of laymen of the county in which it was held.

Secondly, the persons who addressed the meeting after your Lordship had spoken, ac-

knowledgeed that the Church in Ireland was in a state of progressive improvement.

As to the first of these assertions, I refer to the speech of Mr. Sheriff Cummins. He states, "that your Lordship and some other valued and highly influential friends had been the authors of the resolutions" which were afterwards adopted. Yet they, who thus in private, manufactured this important composition, shrunk from a public confession of their feelings. The inference from this circumstance is, that had the cause, which it is declared they patronised, been espoused by the Protestant public, they would not have hesitated openly to defend it.

But the truth is, my Lord, that the assembly which you dignified by your presidency, had not the sanction of the nobility or gentry of the county of Cork. If otherwise, why was Mr. Sheriff Cummins driven to this unusual expedient? "I should deem it better, that if these resolutions are considered worthy of attention some gentleman may move, that they be adopted as the sense of this meeting, than that they should be placed in various hands." Was any thing more likely to attract attention to