The Catholic Columbian, Vol.12, No.45, 6 November 1886 Davitt Against George

Michael Davitt, the well known Irish Nationalist, was in Chicago on Wednesday. A reporter interviewed him regarding the New York City election, and asked him what he thought of the candidacy of **Henry George.** Mr. Davitt said:

"Well, despite the fact that **Henry George** is one of my warmest friends, and a man I esteem most Highly as a sympathiser with the Irish cause and a friend to the laboring classes generally, I must say that I am almost if not quite glad that he was defeated. I am afraid ne made a mistake in running. It is quite probable that if he hail been elected mayor of New York he would never have been elected to anything better still. I would take no part in this campaign. Some of his friends knowing of the friendly relations between us, asked me to write an open letter indorsing him and urging the Irish people to vote for him as a friend of Ireland. I would not have written such a letter if he had been my father. It would have been nothing but sheer impertinence in me to do so. As an Irishman and not a citizen of this country, I have nothing to do with the politics of this country."