

# The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

VOL. I.—No. 49.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1893.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

## Register of the Week.

Problems in politics are a kind of indeterminate equation, capable of various solutions, some of which are negative. The bye-election of East Lambton presents to the country the negative result. That any candidate elected upon P. P. A. principles can be a positive quantity in the sum of a country's welfare is impossible. A temporary advantage may have been gained, local bitterness may shout a little victory, but up and down the whole length of this Province Protestants of any manly spirit must feel that liberty, justice, patriotism have lost where aggressive prejudice, cowardly bigotry and grasping selfishness have won. If the decree of the whole of Ontario is the same as that of East Lambton; if Sir Oliver Mowat is driven into Opposition on this ground, and by the same crafty means, it will be the greatest glory of his life, the crown of his political career, that his foes, unable to oust him from office, had recourse to the secrets of lodgerooms, to religious bigotry, and methods that would blemish our civilization. As for our co-religionists, it is only a change of masters. For years and years this sort of thing has been going on under one name or another. The old nag of the Protestant Horse has been ridden by every generation of politicians of one party or another in this country since representative government was started. That same old nag has been ill-fed; men have abused it, starved it, beaten it—and all to no purpose. At one time Grits are astraddle, and are slowly riding to the market of place and power; at another Orange Conservatives have the poor beast. They look more natural on it than those who profess Liberalism. But which of them ever succeeded? And they may as well make up their minds they never will succeed. Do the P. P. A.'s imagine that all things are settled because they carry East Lambton, or the whole country for that matter? The fight will be handed down from father to son, and a generation yet to come will announce the reign of conscience, justice and liberty.

What are our Catholic people doing? They need not look abroad for such consolation though there is little to discourage them, for we are pretty well used to P. P. Aism of one kind or another. Always on the defensive they must close up their divided ranks, glance around for leaders, and show the spirit of their fathers in courage and devotion. If our young men are not true to their principle perhaps a little persecution will do them good. But in all things let us have charity, for charity faileth not, whatever else may prove void.

The results, as given by the *Globe*, give Mr. McCallum, the P. P. A. candidate, a majority of 513. In its

comments the *Globe* accepts the defeat in a manly spirit that cannot fail to rally the Catholics. It says: "If the battle of religious equality and justice is to be fought over again, there ought to be no doubt about the side on which Liberals in this Province and Dominion shall be found. They cannot, without sacrificing everything of Liberalism but name, make any compromise with such an organization as the P. P. A. though every conflict should result in a temporary defeat, though every constituency in Ontario should follow the example of East Lambton."

Turning to the three cornered fight in North Bruce the so-called Patrons of Industry have carried the riding with a majority for their candidate, Mr. McNaughton, of about 550 over George (Conservative), and 575 over Mr. Pierson (Liberal). This is a new factor in the political problem. They claim that they have nothing whatever to do with the P.P.A., whose movement deals with race and religion, while the Patrons of Industry have only to do with economic questions.

The important points upon which these latter differ from the Liberal Government of Ontario are given by one of their leading officers: "We lay," he says, "particular stress on the importance of mortgages, bank stocks, railway bonds and debentures being taxed just as any other property is, and we strongly favor the appointment of county officials by the municipalities." As for Dominion politics they are strongly in favor of a tariff reform of such a kind that it will be for revenue purposes only, and will be arranged so as to fall on the luxuries and not the necessaries of life. The abolition of the Canadian Senate is also a plank in their platform. A third objection to Dominion politics is the appointment of a lawyer, the Hon. Mr. Angers, as Minister of Agriculture. They number 175 000 members in Canada, of whom 150,000 belong to Ontario—certainly a force to be reckoned with in the future administration of the Province.

While these Canadian events were taking place matters at Washington are also occurring which will, in the near future, affect the politics of the Dominion. A tariff bill has been presented to the Ways and Means Committee of Congress, which is, compared with the present protection of the United States, quite radical in its changes. In general principle it relieves raw material and levies slight duty on manufactured products. The main features of the bill, according to Chairman Wilson, are twofold: first, the adoption wherever practicable of

*ad valorem* instead of specific duties; and secondly, the freeing from taxes of those great materials of industry that lie at the base of production. The very long free list contains, amongst other things, coal, iron, ore, wool, salt, timber, both logs and planks, tin ore and block tin, and binding twine. Wool, vegetables, fruits, eggs, are also untaxed.

To a large pilgrimage, which consisted of one hundred distinguished Catholics whose services had gained for them the decoration "*Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*," the Holy Father spoke words of courage and confidence. "Be not awed," he said, "by the number, by the power, by the audacity of your enemies, they shall be as dust, while Christ shall triumph. Fear not, said Christ, I have overcome the world; man can do nought against God, and the Synagogue of Satan cannot prevail against the Church founded upon the immovable Rock, which is Christ, upon which have been broken both the sceptre of the Cæsars and the swords of the most powerful persecutors. Generation after generation of our enemies have gone by, the plaything of the storm of human passions; but the Church is, the Chair of Peter is, unmoved, and the Cross of Christ triumphs."

In the Reichstag of Germany a motion revoking the expulsion of the Jesuits was carried on the 1st instant by a majority of thirty seven. Dr. Lieber, leader of the clerical party, spoke upon the subject at great length. He claimed that the Catholic Church in Germany needed the services of this great religious body. Thus does Bismarck live to see his bitterest measures against the Church overturned, and the Jesuits, after being driven out in 1872, return in triumph, while he lives half in ease and half in disgrace. History has its lessons.

The *Catholic Union and Times* of Buffalo, in referring to the Archbishop of Toronto at the Silver jubilee of Bishop Ryan, says: "Not only Toronto but all Canada, may well be proud of the distinguished abilities and character of Archbishop Walsh. His address at the Jubilee banquet, was heartfelt and golden."

We can assure our Buffalo contemporaries that we are proud of our Archbishop—and not only of his abilities and character, but his life-long services to the Church in Canada. Let not these be forgotten.

The following appears in the *Christian Guardian* of last week as a despatch from Rome. Its impudent tone bespeaks its foul and false origin. Talk about senile decay of the Holy Father—what gratuity of insult—what wanton lack of consideration! We expect

better from the *Christian Guardian*: "There have been numerous false alarms from the Vatican during the past few years, but this time preparations are being seriously made for the election of a new pope. While still able to get about and take part sparingly in public functions, Leo XIII., has visibly fallen into the stage of senile decay, and the physicians do not believe he can last till March. His hold on life at best is a matter of months. The disappearance of such a remarkable figure in the world's affairs may be at any time the subject of deep concern."

If all the poetry sent to our *sanctum* does not appear in these columns our readers will, we hope, not be disappointed: nor must they attribute it to our predilection for ordinary prose over extraordinary verse. We have no wish to discourage poetry—far from it—we think this age is altogether realistic and prosaic. But where scansion is faulty, where ideas are stilted through measured syllables, prose becomes the survival of the fittest, and the most natural expression for thoughts which, when dressed in awkward rhyme, look very much like Puss in Boots.

The following charge against our Educational system by the *Canada Presbyterian* re-echoes what we ourselves expressed last week in reviewing the state of affairs in Ontario, and has the greater force due to it, from its being expressed by strong partisans of public schools:

"The existence of the Protestant Protective Association in this Province, can be vindicated by showing that popular government, free education and the Gospel have failed in their missions, and it cannot be successfully defended in any other way. For fifty years the people of Ontario have enjoyed popular government. Every man not a lunatic, or a tramp, or a criminal has a vote. Are the Protestants at the end of half a century of self-government unfit to take care of themselves without the aid of this politico-religious society which does most of its work in the dark? We spend about three quarters of a million annually on education, besides the amount given by churches for the support of universities not under the control of the State. What are Queen's and Trinity, and Victoria and McMaster, and the Collegiate Institutes, and the High Schools, and the Public Schools, and the Private Schools doing if our people need a society of this kind to enable them to resist Rome? The man who said knowledge is power must have been mistaken, or perhaps our educational institutions do not impart knowledge. More than all, and worse than all, the very Gospel has been a comparative failure in Ontario if by this time the Protestants need to import a Yankee invention to protect their religion. Hundreds of ministers have been preaching, and thousands of Sabbath School teachers teaching, for many years, and yet the people preached to and taught need a semi-political society outside the machinery of both State and Church to defend the Gospel as Protestants understand it? We had the opinion that the Gospel, especially the Gospel as preached by Calvinists, made men brave and strong and able to take care of themselves. We incline to the opinion that the statesmen and teachers and preachers of this little country are not quite prepared to write themselves down failures."

Rev. Father Conway of Norwood Ont., lectured in the Catholic Association rooms, Peterborough, Dec 5th.