

The Catholic Register.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT THE OFFICE, 30 LOMBARD ST. BY THE CATHOLIC REGISTER PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO. OF TORONTO, LIMITED.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1899. Feb. 23—St. Peter Damian. 24—St. Matthias. 25—St. Felix III.

Count Moore was elected in Derby last week as a Nationalist. He had the Catholic and some Nationalist support; but his political record is not all that Ireland should require of her sons.

The Ottawa letter which appears on another page signed "Catholic Canadian" goes so intelligently into the statutory nature of the Protestantism of British royalty that we have only to recommend its careful perusal to our readers.

"Reasonable men," said Dr. Fallon, "may well require what good purpose is served by a declaration which is insulting and at variance with the first principles of common politeness, and is therefore scarcely a fitting expression to fall from the lips of the sovereign."

'Why should the matter be agitated in Canada? I ask in reply 'Why should it not be agitated in Canada?' Is not Canada a part and a very important part of the British Empire? And do not Catholics form 42 per cent. of the population of this Dominion?

The purely public nature of the issue raised at Ottawa is further emphasized by Dr. Fallon. He says: "This is not a national question; it is not a religious question; it is a matter of public policy; a request for simple justice; a plea for equal rights and for the exercise of that fair play and broad toleration which Mr. Balfour asserts characterizes British institutions."

Unless this declaration is abolished, let me picture for you what will happen at the next coronation. Gathered around the new king will be representatives from all parts of the Empire—from Asia and Africa, from Australia and from the British possessions of America. Men of every color and race and speech, of every shade of religious opinion will be present on that momentous occasion to offer the tribute of their loyalty and the assurance of their affection to the newly crowned monarch.

The special correspondent of The Globe at Washington telegraphs that the joint high commission has collapsed, and that no treaty will be concluded, and that the chief cause of the break was the Alaska boundary dispute.

All this may be as plain as the sun in the heavens, but it will not satisfy Protestants of the kidney of the Presbyterian Review and Montreal Witness. Here are sample passages from The Review: "This distribution of school taxes is a serious menace to the very existence of Protestant schools in Montreal."

save their face by calling the collapse an adjournment.

In his opening address to the new Institute of Irish Bankers Sir John Lubbock made the following remarks, which coming from an Englishman are noteworthy: "There is, of course, a general recognition there that the Irish character is bright, witty, attractive and clever, but I think that out of Ireland at least there is hardly justice done to the solid parts of the Irish character."

That dense clump of all anti-Catholic crusades, The Presbyterian Review, Toronto, has worked itself into a highly indignant mood over a local educational question in Montreal. We have not yet heard much of the discussion of this question by the Toronto press, but we suspect that its contemporaries are not quite so slow as The Presbyterian Review to appreciate a ridiculously absurd position.

Mr. Laurence Baldwin, in The Canada Educational Monthly, takes the editors of a bunch of Toronto journals in hand, and replies to their criticisms of his well discussed plan of voluntary schools.

The Protestants of Montreal led by Rev. Dr. McVicar have petitioned the Quebec government before going to Ottawa for the remedial bill. The petition sets forth that the constitution guarantees the educational rights of Protestants, and that they would be "recranted to public duty" if they did not insist

upon what they conceive to be the measure of their rights. They forget that those were exactly the words of the claim put forward lately by the Catholics of Manitoba, which they in their bigoted violence met with the yell: "Hands off Manitoba." They drowned the Catholic cry for justice and they are now adopting the very words of the claim they denied in order to bolster up the absurdly unjust claim of their own.

Even so mild-mannered a gentleman as Sir William Dawson rises to remark that the religious complexion of companies should decide the apportionment of these taxes, as in the case of individuals. And the Presbyterian Review says the Montreal situation touches in principle the whole Dominion. We wish we could say the same. We wish that the taxes of joint stock companies in Toronto were divided in proportion to the population, or divided at all.

Within the past week the hap of death has stricken down with appalling suddenness the official head of the French republic, President Felix Faure. The news caused by this tragic occurrence, and the disorder stirred up by the boulevard press and patriots in connection with the election of a new President on Saturday, when the choice fell on Emile Loubet, have given an opportunity for the thousandth time to English journals to forestall another French revolution and the certain restoration of monarchy.

The New Brunswick campaign has resulted in the practical annihilation of the so-called "Conservative" opposition organized by Hon. George E. Foster. This could hardly have been anticipated and it is difficult to give an opinion as to whether the sweep is an unmitigated benefit or otherwise to the public as against the partisan interest.

Brunswick into the net of Dominion party politics. If there is one cause more than another that goes down to the roots of corrupt government in the province it is the affiliation of Provincial and Dominion parties. The spectacle of Federal and Provincial Cabinet Ministers upon the same platform combining all their available powers of coercion, bribery and organization in the effort to whip a doubtful constituency, be it provincial or federal, into the party byre is enough to make independent citizens despair of ever seeing good government developed in this country.

To be sure Mr. Foster can say that Hon. Mr. Blair was the man who first brought the Federal machinery to the aid of his friends in New Brunswick. That may be so, but Mr. Foster must bear the responsibility of proclaiming the clear definition of party lines in the contest. He is a man without very much reserve force, and he made this exhibition of impulsiveness all the more conspicuous by hastily calling out: "Traitors" at Hon. John Costigan and other Conservatives who have not allowed his unwise plans to succeed.

Death of President Faure.

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manufacturing a grievance out of the stricken man's cry for the consolations of religion when he found himself on the brink of eternity. They say it is strange that Faure who was "a staunch Mason" should have cried out for a priest. But there is nothing strange about it. Faure was a politician whose success depended upon his standing with Freemasonry, which has outlived democratic institutions as tightly in France as in Italy and other countries. It will be remembered that when he entered Notre Dame cathedral in company with the Czar, during the visit of the latter to France, he stood before the altar like a stork, while the Russian autocrat went on his knees and prayed before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

The London correspondent of The Montreal Gazette telegraphs as follows under date, Feb. 20.—Hon. Edward Blake will return to Canada for good in May, possibly before. He will be tendered a farewell banquet under the auspices of all sections of the Nationalist party. Mr. Redmond appreciates just as much as Mr. Dillon and Sir Thomas Edmond the immense personal sacrifices Mr. Blake has made for the cause of home rule and the great value his services have been to it.

New Liberal Leader on Home Rule.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the Opposition leader, speaking upon an amendment to the address in reply to the speech from the throne, proposed by Mr. John Redmond, which declared that local self-government in Ireland was essential to the liberal party had not changed its attitude regarding home rule, but could not accept an amendment demanding unconditional priority for any measure. Mr. Redmond's amendment was rejected by 300 votes against 49.

Wedding at Hastings.

A very pretty wedding took place on Wednesday the 16th, in St. Mary's church Hastings, when Miss Maggie Lynch, eldest daughter of Mr. John Lynch, was united in marriage to Mr. John English, of Norwood. The bride was assisted by her cousin Miss Minnie McMartin, of Peterborough, and the groomsmen were Mr. Wm. English, of Hastings, cousin of the groom. The nuptial mass was celebrated and the marriage ceremony performed by Rev. Father O'Brien.

Will Cardinal Sotillo come to Canada?

The Rome correspondent of the Philadelphia Standard and Times writes: Some say that the report of Cardinal Sotillo's future visit to America has this much truth in it—that he has been invited to Montreal by Mgr. Bruch, and he will make a visit in the United States after his journey to Canada.

C. M. B. A.

At the last meeting of Branch 49, Toronto, a resolution of sympathy was unanimously adopted on the death of Brother Thomas Prandible.

Western Canada Loan and Savings Company.

The "Western," as such, held its last meeting in the old premises, Church street, on Monday of this week. When the next annual gathering takes place the "Western" will be part and parcel of our largest loan companies have been welded into one.