

# The Catholic Weekly Review.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CANADA

*Reddite quæ sunt Cæsaris, Cæsari; et quæ sunt Dei, Deo.—Matt. 22: 21.*

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## NOTES.

The forthcoming issue of the *Westminster Review* will contain a powerful contribution bearing the title "The Forster Tragedy in Ireland," by William O'Brien, M.P. Mr. Forster's greatest sin—in Mr. O'Brien's eyes—was his misappreciation of Mr. Parnell. With tender touches the writer sketches the difficulties which lay before the Chief Secretary of that day, and he mourns, with a sincerity which there is no doubting, that Ireland should have been the thorn and the undoing of the shaggy, kindly, rough hewn Saxon man, who might so easily have been a friend if he had not been doomed to be a ruler.

So much has been said, *pro* and *con*, with reference to the propriety of the appointment of Mr. Justice Day to a place on the Parnell Commission, that it is only fair to correct a feature, here and there, in the sombre pen and ink portrait's that have been drawn of him. General Sir E. Butler, writing to Mr John Morley, like the London *Catholic Register*, has a good word to say for him:

"As regards politics I am under the impression that he belonged to no party. I was constantly alone with him, and, as far as I can remember, politics did not appear to interest him. He was a man of such strong intellect and varied information that he was full of interests apart from politics. As a public man he appeared to me to be an ardent Catholic, and to have great respect for authority, the tendency of his opinions on that subject being, I should have said, that law and order must be maintained under any circumstances and at any risk, but beyond this I cannot recall any special allusions to the general Irish question. At the same time, I have a distinct recollection of his frequently expressing his partiality for the Irish character and people. His personal feelings, however, would never interfere with what he considered the course of justice. I am aware that these are only impressions, but as I have always found the judge a generous, kind hearted man, both in public and private, I think it due to him to send them on as the impressions of another Commissioner who served with him."

"Of course" writes Mr. Labouchere, M. P., in reference to the members of the Parnell Commission, "of course it is possible that their minds on the spur of the emergency may expand to the magnitude the task imposed upon them.

I am sure I hope so, principally for their sakes. 'Sursum corda gentlemen,' I say to them, 'You have my best good wishes.' Bear in mind that the judgment which you are going to pronounce may, if you choose to make it, be about the most important document, with which the present century will supply the coming New Zealander. Think of the New Zealander. Keep your mind on him."

Captain Lovett Cameron has contributed to the *Manchester Guardian* a stirring yet a practical paper, urging that the crusade which Cardinal Lavignerie has undertaken for the suppression of the African slave-trade is one of physical as well as of moral force, and calling upon English men to go to Africa as soldiers of the Cross, though not as missionaries, and to boldly adventure their lives in the suppression of the slave trade. He proposes work and danger, and fighting in a sacred cause, against a savage enemy and under an African sun; and he speaks on his subject with all the authority of personal experience and with all the modesty of a brave man. "Cardinal Manning," he says, "endorsed what was said by Cardinal Lavignerie and spoke up like the English gentleman that he is, when he declared that although he was a man of peace, there were occasions when not only was it lawful to use force, but when he would advocate its employment, and that the slave trade in Africa was an evil against which it was both lawful and expedient to employ it." Captain Cameron, who leaves no detail untouched in his appeal, refers to the spirit of adventure, not less lively because attended by personal risk, which prompts so many Englishmen to go out to shoot "big game" in the African forests, whose energies, he suggests, would be better turned against the slave stealers. To the question can the plan be carried out with any reasonable hope of success Captain Cameron answers, "Most undoubtedly, yes." "The manhood of England," he says, "can be trusted to furnish the European portion of the men required, and in no war or campaign can more enduring and lasting glory and renown be won, or more beneficial results be obtained. The suppression of slavery by the crusaders would immensely facilitate the labour of missionaries, and also rapidly open up the country to legitimate trade. Our English exchanges, commenting upon Captain Cameron's stirring proposal, seem to agree that his appeal should not pass away. "The age of chivalry says the *Weeily Register*, "is not dead amongst us. We cannot but anticipate that an anti-slavery battalion, duly organized under every proper sanction, with frank acceptance, on the crusaders part, of a peremptory discipline rendered indispensable by the special character of this 'New Crusade,' would summon many a beating heart to arms. Success in such a cause would form the most cherished and grateful memories for after years, while death at the hands of the slave-dealer, and on behalf of the slave, would be invested with all the qualities of martyrdom."

"Let us remember," in the concluding words of Captain Cameron's article, "while we hesitate, ponder, and take no action, that every minute a life is lost, that every time the clock strikes the hour half a hundred are destroyed, that every day fifteen hundred are added to the tale of victims which the bloody Moloch of slavery extorts from the children of Africa!"