

# 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.

Vol. I.

Toronto, Saturday, Nov. 26, 1887

No. 41.

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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Father Gualdi, who was the colleague of Mgr. Persico, in the Papal mission to Ireland, is dead.

It is announced that the English Papal jubilee pilgrimage will reach Rome in January, the Scotch pilgrimage in February and the Irish pilgrimage in March.

Mr. Gladstone has replied to Mr. Balfour's recent Birmingham utterances, in the shortest and most epigrammatic letter he is ever known to have written. "Mr. Balfour has yet to learn," says Mr. Gladstone, "first, that the Duke of Wellington could not attain what he has in view, and secondly, that he is not the Duke of Wellington." In these days of political epithet the "Duke of Wellington" will stick; Mr. Balfour may strive to re-assert in Ireland the rule of the dragon, but he will win no Waterloo.

Professor Stuart, M.P., in a letter to the *London Daily News*, expresses the opinion that, should the present government policy be continued in Ireland, not only civil war will eventuate, but butchery and anarchy—butchery by the armed police, anarchy among the unarmed people. He is confident that the influence of the Irish leaders is all on the side of an avoidance of any crime.

The capture of Mr. O'Brien's clothes by the Government must have been a surprise even to its friends as a manifestation of strategical strength and superior states-

manship. The *Boston Pilot*, commenting on the magnificent *coup d'état* of the castle authorities, is forced to acknowledge that Mr. Balfour has achieved a victory. "Friday night of last week, while William O'Brien was asleep in his cell, the might of England swooped down in all its majesty and carried off his clothes. When he awoke next morning he found in their place the prison uniform, which he had steadily refused to wear. He still refused to put it on, but there can be no question but that the British Empire has scored a victory. It has forced a powerful enemy to keep his bed, and it has his clothes as the spoils of victory. It is long since England has achieved even so much of a triumph over any enemy, and it would be cruelly unjust to deny her any part of the glory attaching to this. There was a certain Satanic grandeur about the murder of the young princes in the Tower; but the picture of a tyrant stealing his sleeping victim's breeches—only the depotism of Balfour could have given that to history.

The next session will be one of the most momentous, it is believed, in the history of the British Parliament. With their Liberal Unionist allies the government last session were able to muster up a majority of from eighty to one hundred on the Irish question, but the legislation of the coming session will comprise much of a different character. Though apparently safe on any questions connected with the adoption of the present policy in Ireland, there are yet any number of side issues, the introduction of which would possibly involve the defeat of the Ministry. For example, the introduction of a bill by Mr. Gladstone to disestablish the Welsh Church, would be certain of the support of many Liberal Unionists, while the any measure brought forward by the Ministry to buy out the Irish landlords on the lines Mr. Goschen is said to contemplate, would be composed not only by a considerable number of Conservatives, but by the Government's radical supporters of the Chamberlain school.

Mr. Parnell writes that his health is slowly but steadily improving, but his physician, Sir Henry Thompson, insists on perfect quiet for the present, as otherwise he will be unable to bear the labours of the coming session of Parliament. To the correspondent of a New York journal who visited him the other day, Mr. Parnell spoke of the general political situation. In his judgment he said a more feeble or inert government never held reins in Ireland. It is teaching Irishmen a most disastrous lesson by its bungling incapacity, the lesson that law may be successfully defied. The law as recently constructed by the Unionist majority in the Commons is daily defied and with impunity, one of the extraordinary results of coercion and "firm and resolute government" being that for every offence against the law committed before the passage of the Coercion Bill, hundreds are committed now. Mr. Parnell asked whether respect for the Imperial Parliament; the possibility of her continued government by the same agency, or the solidity of the Union is likely to be increased by such an administration.