

Catholic Record

London, Sat. Feb. 8th, 1890.

ON ANTICHRIST

One of the most non-sensical commentaries it has been our lot to read upon the subject of Revision of the Westminster Confession appears in a late number of the Christian Instructor under the title "Is the Pope an anti-Christ?" It is copied from Mid-Century and is intended as a protest against eliminating from the Westminster standards of the Presbyterian Church the statement that the Pope is anti-Christ. The writer of the article calls himself "Westminster."

The Christian Instructor is a Presbyterian organ, with a large circulation in many localities, and from this article the public can form a pretty accurate judgment on the nature of the stuff on which Presbyterian "babes of grace" are fed in order to transform them into "dear" children of God after the Presbyterian pattern.

The writer of the article under consideration quotes Turretin as saying that "the doctrine that the Pope of Rome, or the Papacy, is anti-Christ is the general belief of Protestants and the chief ground of the Reformation."

Francis Turretin was Professor of Theology in Geneva, and he is acknowledged to have been one of the best expositors of the true character of Calvinism or Presbyterianism. Whether he is authorized to declare what is the doctrine of Protestantism is, however, quite another question.

The Westminster Confession in its 25th chapter says: "The Pope of Rome is that anti-Christ, that man of sin, and son of perdition that exalteth himself in the Church against Christ, and all that is called God."

It is hard to say whether the absurdity, the impety, or the Psephical solemnities of this statement is most conspicuous. Of all Christian denunciations, the only one which has obeyed the command of Christ to carry the knowledge of Him to all nations is the Catholic Church.

John of Constantino, through pride, usurped a title which did not belong to him, and Pope Gregory rebuked him in these strong terms, because pride and usurpation will be characteristic of the anti-Christ, as they were also of John.

As to the teaching of St. Jerome regarding the position of the Pope in the Church, we will here quote him in confirmation of what we have said above, that the Westminster Confession impiously and absurdly applies the title of anti-Christ to St. Peter, St. Jerome says:

"The Apostle Peter, the first high priest of the Christians, when he had first founded the Church at Antioch, proceeded to Rome, preaching the Gospel, he continues for twenty five years bishop of that city."

We may here add that both St. Innocent and St. Optatus in the years 170 and 368, respectively, mention both Peter and Clement in their lists of the Popes down to their days, thus fully showing that at the time when even Presbyterianism acknowledged that the Church was in her parity, the Pope, far from being believed to be anti-Christ, was recognized throughout the world as the lawful head of Christ's Church on earth.

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of Christ. Now the writer in Mid-Century acknowledges that the Catholic Church is the "largest Church in Christendom," and we have a view of Presbyterianism in operation in the following Christian party which was then in power in 1857, a sound Presbyterian being the chief magistrate. It is aimed chiefly against "the largest Church of Christendom."

"That professed Jesuits and similar piety, found in any part of the realm, shall be apprehended, pursued, and in case the path of death and consecration of movable; that whoever willingly and wittingly receives and supplies any of them for the space of three days and three nights together, or severally at three times, shall be deemed a heretic, and shall be liable to all the penalties and excommunications, all who refuse to resort to the preaching of God's word, and who shall, by reading, or dispersing of books or letters, endeavor to persuade any of His Majesty's subjects to decline from the profession of the true religion, shall incur the threat of the movable and of their life-estate." (Lord Kane's abridgment of Statute Law.)

It will be remarked that the final clause of this piece of tyranny over men's consciences are directed against all Protestants who refuse to admit the Westminster Confession, equally as against Catholics. The true religion is elsewhere defined to be contained in that Confession only.

All this is precisely in accord with those clauses in the Confession and the Larger Catechism which make it the duty of the civil magistrate to remove "ALL false worship."

There is something refreshingly amusing in Westminster's effort to bring Pope Gregory and St. Jerome forward as witnesses to prove that the Pope is the anti-Christ of the Bible. St. Gregory would thus be proving himself to be the anti-Christ. The writer quoted in the Christian Instructor says: "Gregory had fore-announced that the man who should claim to be universal pastor of God's flock on earth is the forerunner of anti-Christ." It is scarcely necessary to say that the quotation is quite false. St. Gregory's real words were not a fore-announcement at all. He styles John, Patriarch of Constantinople, a "forerunner of anti-Christ" (I. 4 Ep. 38 to John of Constantinople), because he had announced to himself the title "Universal Bishop." But the forerunner of anti-Christ is not the anti-Christ any more than St. John the Baptist was Christ because he was Christ's forerunner.

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FRENCH IN PARLIAMENT. The London Free Press of Monday characterizes the French language as "patent" in its eagerness to find an argument for its abolition from Canada. The Free Press managers and editors may be ignorant of the noble language of France, but such ignorance is not any more to their credit than that of the Chinese who characterized as "barbaric" all who were not natives of the "Celestial Empire." The Free Press seems to be miserably ignorant of the fact that France has a literature in the French language which England might well envy in spite of her greatness, which we have no wish to impugn. In the Free Press ignorant of the fact that the great epic Telemachus is the work of a Frenchman, and was written in French, and by a Catholic Bishop? Is it aware that masterpiece of eloquence and learning have been written by such scholars as Bossuet, Chateaubriand, Fenelon, L'Abbe, Lamartine, Montaigne, Dupleux; yes, even in their way by such erratic geniuses as Voltaire and Jean Jacques Rousseau?

But, of course, the Free Press directs its violence especially against the use of the French language in Canada. Its Canada will be as harmless as it is arrogant and tyrannous. It has not yet learned that the French-Canadians are as much or more citizens of this country than are their assailants. It says of the French language: "We (the Free Press managers and

editors) want none of it. The age wants none of it. (!!!) The large majority of the people of Canada do not desire it, etc."

If we English-speaking people do not want any French to be spoken in Canada we should at least remember that the French-speaking people of the country were fully guaranteed the liberty of doing what they please in their own way when the country was ceded to Great Britain. It is under this guarantee that the ancestors of the French-Canadians accepted British rule, and they must be regarded as our equals in every respect. It is therefore the height of folly to talk of forcing upon them any language except that which they themselves choose to speak. But, in spite of all the bluster of the Free Press and its allies, Mr. Dalton McCarthy and the Mail, and the Huron Diocesan Standard, we can safely tell them that the people of Quebec will keep both their language and their religion until they themselves, of their own free will, shall give them up.

The Free Press says that if the French-Canadians speak in French on Mr. McCarthy's motion to abolish French in the North West, they will speak in empty benches. Why is this? If it be really the case it is because the Ontario members of Parliament, generally, know only one language. But the French-Canadian members know at least two. It is an old saying: "He who knows seven languages is seven times a man." It would appear from the statement of the Free Press, then, that every French-Canadian in Parliament is worth two Ontarians. We do not go quite so far as to assert this, but we do say that Quebec shall not be forced to adopt English as its language until it shall do so of its own accord.

It is very true, as the Free Press says, that English is the prevailing language of the continent; but it is not by force that it has become so. If Quebec chose at some future time to make English its language, let it be so. But no more foolish measure could be proposed than to attempt to force English upon our French-speaking Province before it is prepared to accept it. The Free Press is as impotent in this matter as it is irrelevant. It is merely contributing to the Mail's policy of bringing on an annexation by exciting internal discord in the country.

DEAN CASSIDY AND FATHER DUFFY HONORED. Oulgan Jan 24th, 1890.

To the Editor of the Catholic Record: DEAR SIR—O, the eve of the departure of Rev. Dean Cassidy and Father Duffy for Burie and St. Ignace respectively the following addresses and presentations were incidentally at their leaving times.

DEAR FATHER DUFFY—We, the parishioners of St. James, Apsala, wish to testify to you our feelings of deep regret on the eve of your departure from amongst us. We knew it must have cost you many a pang of sincere sorrow to be obliged to sever the ties that link you so strongly to Apsala, where you have spent the early years of your priesthood. We can well understand that a connection so tender and sacred, from which you have derived so much joy and satisfaction, and which you have been so long and so faithfully engaged in, is not to be severed without a pang of sincere sorrow. We are glad to hear that you are going to a place where you will be able to do good more abundantly than ever. We are glad to hear that you are going to a place where you will be able to do good more abundantly than ever. We are glad to hear that you are going to a place where you will be able to do good more abundantly than ever.

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CONSUMPTION

IN its first stages, can be successfully checked by the prompt use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Even in the later periods of that disease, the cough is wonderfully relieved by this medicine.

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"Several years ago I was severely ill. The doctors said I was in consumption, and that they could do nothing for me, but advised me, as a last resort, to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. After taking this medicine two or three months I was cured, and my health returned good to the present day."—James Birchard, Danbury, Conn.

"Several years ago, on a passage home from California, by water, I contracted so severe a cold that for some days I was confined to my state room, and a physician on board considered my life in danger. Happening to have a bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, I used it freely, and my lungs were soon restored to a healthy condition. Since then I have invariably recommended this preparation."—J. B. Chandler, Junction, Va.

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The Bennett Furnishing Co., of London, Ont., make a specialty of manufacturing the latest designs in Church and School Furniture. The Catholic Clergy of Canada are respectfully invited to send for catalogues and price before awarding contracts.

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NATIONAL COLONIZATION LOTTERY

Under the patronage of the Rev. Archbishop of Quebec, the Rev. Archbishop of Montreal, the Rev. Archbishop of Toronto, the Rev. Archbishop of Adja. We also published last week the address of the congregation, giving expression to the general regret felt at the departure of the rev. father from a parish in which he had so long and so successfully labored for the holy work to which his life is devoted.

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A POPULAR PRIEST.

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DEFENCE OF THE JESUITS.

Now we come to that sad word—farwell—which is saddest of all when spoken to our dearest friend and father; but our hearts are cheered by the hope that even if we part here, we may with the help of our Heavenly Lord meet all together in His Holy Kingdom where, in the words of our own loved poet, "Hearts, from which 'twas death to sever, Eyes, this world can never restore, There as we were as bright as ever, Shall meet us and be lost no more."

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