

The Catholic Register.

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

VOL. I.—No. 2.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 1893.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

Register of the Week.

The event of the week was the Banquet given by the Toronto Board of Trade in the Pavilion last Thursday night. It was remarkable for the distinguished guests who had assembled and the eloquent speeches which were made; but it had a special significance in the fact that it was the last appearance of his Excellency the Governor-General before a Toronto audience, and the first appearance of our new Premier, Sir John Thompson. Both the valedictory of the former and the inaugural of the latter were graceful, statesmanlike, and worthy of the occasion which they honored by their very presence.

The Governor, after administering a delicate but well merited reprimand to the *Toronto Mail*, proceeded to recall the changes which time had made since the first similar occasion upon which he had met them; and how that "he had Sir John Thompson—Sir John the Third—sitting as the successor of those prime ministers who have gone before—and I hope the forerunner of a noble and worthy succession." His Excellency quoted figures from the tables of imports and exports, ship tonnage, bank circulation, life insurance, to show the progress of the country. By a well selected simile he touched upon the comparison between ourselves and our neighbors; but, added he: "In discussing various questions allow me to decline altogether to discuss seriously even for one moment an essential change of constitution, a good deal discussed in the United States, I honestly believe under imperfect information, and still more ventilated from time to time in a manner which I am convinced a majority of you will agree with me gives it undue prominence on this side." He then reviewed some of the institutions of the country, our judicial system, his own position as Governor-General, our connection with the mother country; and taking all in all he thought that our present connection was happier for all concerned. A note of regret fell upon his Excellency's utterances when he announced that it was most likely the last time he would have the pleasure of meeting them—that the tenure of his office was fast drawing to a close. We also regret it, and every Catholic in the land will join with us—for we have deep reason to remember Lord Stanley's governor-generalship with admiration and gratitude. And as we look back upon his stay amongst us we feel the truth and force of his words, when he said: "I have never harbored one single thought inconsistent with honest, loyal and complete devotion to Canada and to her service." We join most heartily with him in the hope expressed when

he looks forward to the coming of a not distant period in the growth—the healthy growth—of public opinion, which from the highest to the lowest will be Canada first and party after.

When Sir John Thompson rose he received an ovation, a welcome which did honor to those who gave it. We quote from his speech, omitting that portion which touched upon trade questions:

I am conscious, gentlemen, that there are problems of state before us which might tax the energy and the wisdom of the ablest man whom Providence ever gave to this country, but they are problems not for us alone. They are problems which affect the future and the welfare of this whole country, and therefore they claim not the attention of the Cabinet alone but of every man who loves his country and wishes to help its progress in the future. It would be idle for me when so many conjectures have been put forward and so many suggestions as to what I should speak about, if I should fail, even at the risk of taxing your patience for a while, to refer to those questions very briefly, as I shall endeavor to do. One of them, the most serious perhaps from some points of view, serious because it touches the religious feelings of the people of Canada from one end of it to the other, and because it is said to affect the rights and the liberties of one of the smallest, but not the least important of our provinces. Questions like this, which come home to the convictions of our people, and the moral and religious views of our people are dangerous questions in the state, and it is for that reason that I say they are not to be approached in a partisan or political spirit. They are not to be dealt with as questions devolving upon the responsibility of one party alone, because the welfare of the state involved when such questions arise which divide our people, is a misfortune, not for one party or for one generation, but a problem to be met and dealt with in the widest spirit of patriotism. In touching upon that question let me say to you that deeply as the feelings of the people of this country have been upon the subject I see only two safe guides to safe result. One of them is for the people themselves to regard that question, and every other which comes before us, in the spirit of toleration and concession where the concession does not meet with a sacrifice of principle, and with the Government the guide shall be, as far as I am able to judge, the constitutional law of this country, by which we propose to be guided and which we propose to obey from the beginning to the end of the discussion. I had an opportunity some weeks ago of speaking in this tone with reference to this question and was sadly misinterpreted afterwards or misunderstood by one journal, which stated that in pleading for toleration, in pleading for moderation and in pleading for the respect which men often have for the difference of opinion which their brethren entertain and the differences of belief and the races which exist in this country I was told I was putting in a plea for toleration for myself and uttering an implied reproach against those who disapproved of my choice to be First Minister of this country. Let me say to every one of you gentlemen that I have no plea for toleration to make for myself. I want no sympathy through toleration in that regard. I am not occupying the responsible position which it is my honor to hold to-night through any effort of my own or any struggle of mine for political distinction. I occupy that position simply because those who were qualified to decide, and who were bound to decide, thought that I could serve the state occupying that position. I am nothing more than a public servant and if I should succeed in serving the state well I shall have achieved the only ambition which I have in public life. If I should fail to serve the state well or to serve it acceptably to her people I know enough of the position I occupy that I must give place to another man, and I rejoice that there are men in both political parties in this country who can serve her well and to great advantage to the country, even when I should pass off the scene. * There are other questions which are put forward as problems of state for us to deal with which I must confess, Mr. President and gentlemen of the Board of Trade, I do not so regard. We have been challenged with

the fact that there are movements in this country not only looking to an entire change of our constitution and the country, but a change in the allegiance of the people. I think, sir, that both parties in this country, and the men and women in this country who are outside of party ranks, will put the problem at a big distance at the first opportunity they get of doing so. But I do say as regards other questions connected with the States and this country, other questions looking to the future of this country, I can recommend to you the eloquent words of his Excellency the Governor-General to-night, who uttered words of caution as to the dangerous responsibilities involved in the admission of national existence, and I am sure that every man who is a Canadian at heart feels that this country ought to be a nation, will be a nation, and, please God, we shall help to make it a nation; but, sir, we do not desire that it shall be a separate nation, but that it will be a nation in itself, forming a bulwark to the British Empire, whose traditions we admire, whose protection we enjoy, and who has given to this country in the fullest degree the right and the power of self-government, and agreed to extend to the people of this country every facility which a self-governed and independent people could desire to have.

Other speakers responded to various toasts, Sir Oliver Mowat replying for the Province of Ontario, and the Hon. Wilfrid Laurier for Quebec.

Whatever other lessons the event contained we simply point to the following, for we are outside the arena of party politics, and we are not members of a Board of Trade. The most important functions of government are not limited by shipping reports, and the success of a government centres not in a minister of finance, but in the respect for the conscience and freedom of the individual consistent with the common weal. The second is directed to our Catholic young men who, looking upon the leader of the Government, Sir John Thompson, and the leader of the Opposition, the Hon. Mr. Laurier, may see that the highest positions in the country are open to them provided they walk the paths of sobriety, industry and upright adherence to those principles of faith which alone can exalt and ennoble.

Our Roman news, dated Dec. 20th, 1892, announces that the Sacred Congregation of Rites held a preparatory session in the Vatican Palace in relation to the authenticity of miracles wrought through the intercession of the venerable Servant of God, Didace of Madrid, a priest and professed member of the Capuchins. They also held a general session in presence of the Holy Father, in which it was decided that they could with surety proceed with the beatification of several venerable Dominicans and Jesuits who were martyred in the East. The beatification of the venerable Bianchi, a Barnabite; Baldinucci, a Jesuit; and Maiella, a Redemptorist, will take place on the 22nd, the 29th of January and the 12th of March respectively.

In the College of the Propaganda the solemn distribution of prizes and honors took place on December 14th, when 16 doctors, 35 licentiates and 48 bachelors in theology, 7 doctors, 11

licentiates and 25 bachelors in philosophy, received their degrees. The Cardinal Prefect, Cardinal Ledochowski, presided on the occasion.

The approaching consistory will be held on the 16th inst., when the following prelates will receive the red hat: Mgr. Persicco, Secretary of the Propaganda, Mgr. Molenni, Under Secretary of State; Mgr. di Pietro, Nuncio at Madrid; Mgr. Galimberti, Nuncio at Vienna; Mgr. Malagola, Archbishop of Teramo, Mgr. Guarino, Archbishop of Messina; Mgr. Thomas, Archbishop of Rouen, Mgr. Meignan, Archbishop of Tours; Mgr. Kremenetz, Archbishop of Cologne, Mgr. Kopp, Bishop of Breslau; Mgr. Vaszary, Primate of Hungary; Mgr. Sauz y Fores, Archbishop of Seville; Mgr. Vaughan, Archbishop of Westminster; and Mgr. Logue, Primate of Ireland. Two others are named as probable—Mgr. Salvati, Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of the Council, and a third Frenchman.

The Grand Orient of the Italian Freemasons, presiding at a banquet at Naples, replied to the Holy Father's letter upon Free Masonry. Without daring to refute the statements and arguments of his Holiness, he boldly announces the continued battle of the secret societies against the Church: "We will have," he says, "the State eventually laical, which is incarnate in the schools, the family, and all the forms of public life. Primary schools ought all to be in the hands and under the responsibility of the Government, and no religious instruction will be given in them." Civil marriage and divorce are proclaimed. "What we wish is a profound revolution in the whole organization of the State. Masonry combats the christianity of the Sacred Congregation of the Index, of the Immaculate and of the Syllabus; it combats the faith which is nourished with the absurd and the moral decalogue of the Jesuits. Let Catholics remain faithful, if they wish, to Jesus Christ, but to-day they can no longer be obedient and devout to His visible Vicar without becoming hostile to the State and sworn enemies of the unity of our country."

That is strong language, but it gives a key to the Judaism and masonry of Italian politics. Let our readers regard carefully the social as well as the religious principles announced and see if masonic principles in Europe differ from those in America—non-religious education, civil marriage and divorce. It is not difficult to look for them.

Political events in England and Ireland, on account of the holiday season, are very quiet. From despatches we learn that Mr. Dillon continued his earnest efforts before the Commission for Evicted Tenants, and