

The Catholic Record
Published every Friday morning at 428 Richmond Street
THOS. COFFEY,
Publisher and Proprietor.

LETTER FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP WALSH.
London, Ont., May 23, 1878.
DEAR MR. COFFEY:—As you have become proprietor and publisher of the CATHOLIC RECORD, I deem it my duty to announce to its subscribers and patrons that the change of proprietorship will work no change in its one and principle; that it will remain, what it has been, thoroughly Catholic, entirely independent of political parties, and exclusively devoted to the cause of the Church and to the promotion of Catholic interests.

Mr. THOMAS COFFEY,
Office of the "Catholic Record,"
FROM HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP HANNAH.
St. Mary's, Halifax, Nov. 7, 1881.
I have had opportunities during the last two years or more of reading copies of the CATHOLIC RECORD, published in London, Ontario, and approved of by His Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Walsh, the Bishop of that See. I beg to recommend that paper to all the faithful of this diocese.

Catholic Record.

LONDON, FRIDAY, FEB. 17, 1882.

LENTE REGULATIONS.

We publish by direction of His Lordship the following Lente Regulations for 1882:—

1st. All the weeks of Lent, from Ash Wednesday till Easter Sunday, are fast days of precept on one meal, with the allowance of a moderate collation in the evening.

2nd. General usage has made it lawful to take in the morning some tea or coffee, with a morsel of bread.

3rd. The precept of fasting implies also that of abstinence. But by a dispensation from the Holy See, A. D. 1874, for ten years, the use of flesh meat is allowed in this Diocese at the principal meal on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays of Lent, with the exception of the Saturday in Ember week and Easter Sunday.

4th. There is neither fast nor abstinence to be observed on Sundays of Lent.

5th. It is not allowed to use fish with flesh meat at the same meal in Lent.

6th. There is no prohibition to use eggs, butter, or cheese, provided the rules of the quantity prescribed by the law of the fast be complied with.

7th. Lard may be used in preparing fish, vegetables, &c., etc., when butter cannot be easily procured.

8th. The Church excuses from the obligation of fasting (but not of abstinence from flesh meat, except in special cases of sickness or the like), the following classes of persons: First, the infirm; second, those whose duties are of an exhausting or laborious character; third, persons who are under the age of twenty-one years; fourth, women in pregnancy or nursing infants; fifth, those who are enfeebled by old age, and all who through any cause cannot fast without great prejudice to their health.

Persons who are in doubt as to whether, in their circumstances, they are bound by the law of fast and abstinence, should consult their confessor or pastor, and should follow his direction in the matter.

REPEAL OF THE UNION.

Mr. P. J. Smyth's amendment to the address, in favor of the repeal of the legislative union between Great Britain and Ireland, is an indication that the Irish people cannot rest satisfied even with a solution of the land question. The evils connected with the land tenure system so long prevalent in Ireland have caused much of the suffering and misery which have been the lot of that hapless country for many generations. But another and fruitful source of Irish discontent and Irish retrogression is the absence of home government. Ireland is a distinct nation from Great Britain, and cannot be beneficially ruled by a legislature made up in greater part of representatives from the latter country having nothing in common with the traditions, feelings, and form of religious belief dear to Irishmen. The whole course of British legislation for Ireland shows most unmistakably that Ireland is considered and treated by British statesmen as a distinct country—a country obtained by conquest, and to be kept in subjection by laws of a coercive character. Even when, and it but rarely, we are sorry to say, happens, a measure of comprehensive reform is applied to Ireland, it is confessedly done to prevent rebellion and avert danger from the imperial interests of Britain. The liberal party now in power stands pledged to a reform of the Irish borough franchise, but for three years has done nothing to confer such a favor on Ireland. Is it any marvel, then, that the Irish people should be dissatisfied? The Union was represented to their ancestors as a benefit designed to bring about a complete assimilation between the condition of Englishmen and Irishmen. Hostile as we are to

it, we must admit that it had in eighty years produced much good for Ireland, if this representation had been realized. But no effort has ever been seriously made to fully extend to Ireland the privileges enjoyed by Englishmen. Just enough has been done to make Irishmen feel and resent their subordinate position. Besides, to benefit Great Britain the trade of Ireland has been killed. Ireland has, in fact, in eighty years, lost more by the Union and its innumerable concomitant evils than a century of Home government could confer. Even with the land in the hands of the people, it will be impossible, so long as this forced and unnatural connection between the two countries subsists, for Ireland to advance in prosperity or secure that contentment its sorely-tried people need so much. If Scotland, after its legislative Union with England, had been treated by the English government as Ireland has been, its connection with Britain had been of brief duration indeed. But Scotland has been invariably governed according to its people's wishes, while the interests of its trade and commerce have never been made subservient to those of England, as has been the case with Ireland. Scotland has, in consequence, lost nothing by the Union. No man can truthfully say the same of Ireland. Mr. Smyth, who took the earliest opportunity available to press his views on Parliament, is not a friend to the proposed scheme of Federal Union which found favor with the Home Rule party of which Mr. Butt was the founder, and for some years the leader. He is, however, an ardent supporter of the legislative independence of Ireland. His desire is to see an Irish Parliament re-established, having full and untrammelled control of Irish affairs. He has, however, no following amongst the Irish members, most of whom at present, though they would prefer a simple repeal of the legislative union, favor a scheme of federal union as the most feasible and least objectionable method of home rule that could be devised. Even if the Irish members felt disposed to press with unanimity and earnestness the question of repeal, they could not now expect to obtain a majority in the British Parliament for any such proposal as Mr. Smyth's. The time is, nevertheless, coming when Britain must, if she desire to preserve any vestige of authority in Ireland, and keep intact the union of the crowns of both countries, consent to some comprehensive measure of home government for that country.

THE MOUNTED POLICE.

The Mounted Police force is, we learn, to be increased to five hundred men. Its present strength is three hundred, a number wholly inadequate to the duties expected from the force. We think that the usefulness and efficiency of the force would be increased if it were placed more directly under the control of the Lieutenant-governor of the North West Territories. The affairs of this important body cannot be so well administered from Ottawa as from Battleford. It may, however, be found injudicious to make any such change till regular Provincial governments are organized in the North West. Meanwhile, no efforts should be spared to secure the largest measure of efficiency for the force. In this connection, we are happy to say, on the authority of a gentleman thoroughly conversant with affairs in the North-West, that the Mounted Police as at present constituted is a body against which no complaint can be justly proffered. There are, however, in every such force men who by misconduct bring discredit on all their associates. This has certainly been the case with the Mounted Police, who acquired in some portions of the Dominion a most unenviable notoriety through the disgust and indignation inspired by the charge brought against some of their members, charges neither denied nor refuted by those in a position to know the facts. Great care should now be taken in the selection of the two hundred men to be added to the force. None but men of good habits and irreproachable character should be chosen. The service is an honorable one, and the

interests of the country demand that it should be made as efficient as possible. Some of the money now squandered on useless military displays in the old Provinces might be employed beneficially in making the Mounted Police a force in every respect creditable to the country and of invaluable usefulness in the rapid settlement of the North-West.

THE SITUATION IN WASHINGTON.

We doubt if ever there was a time in American history, with parties so evenly balanced in both houses of Congress, when less acrimony and partisan bitterness marked the course of legislative action. There seems, in fact, to be just now an almost total absence of the ill-feeling which at times quite recent was one of the disagreeable features of Congressional discussion. This is a state of affairs highly creditable to our American neighbors. It clearly proves that they have successfully solved the problem of constitutional government, whose successful action largely depends on the forbearance and self-denial of all citizens, but especially those who form and guide public opinion.

The present calm in American political circles may be the forerunner of a storm, but we cannot see any issue before the people likely to arouse the fierce passions which raged in every contest for years immediately after the war. The war, which resulted in one of the greatest social revolutions of modern times, and brought new and important questions for adjudication by the people at the polls, has not left much of that acerbity and heart-burning which in other countries for generations after civil strife divide citizen from citizen, family from family. This is indeed a matter of congratulation for all patriotic Americans, and it reflects the very highest credit on the Southern people, who, after the close of the great fratricidal conflict, were subjected to abuse and flagrant injustice detrimental to the best interests of all classes of the people and all sections of the country. The Southern people, during the reign of ignorance, brutality, and speculation to which many of their commonwealths were then subjected, displayed a patience and fortitude unsurpassed, by their noblest sacrifice and valor during the war itself. That patience and gratitude have achieved victory over the forces of corruption, violence, and mis-government. In every state the people themselves now enjoy unrestricted control of their own affairs, and the best interests of the white and colored races in the South are protected and promoted. The census returns show that the growth of the south in wealth and population has been simply marvellous. The publication of these returns at once dissipated the hopes of extreme radicals, they fondly expected that the strength of the "solid South" would be broken by the census of 1880. The influence of the South in the next decade will be greater in Washington than it has ever been.

While all is quiet in political circles at this moment in the American capital, there are signs of disintegration in the republican ranks, which portend some bitter struggles between the stalwarts and their opponents. Secretary Blaine retired from office under Arthur, with a determination to use every effort to crush stalwartism in the next republican national convention. It is, however, doubtful if he can succeed. The new President will, we believe, use the influence of his position to advance the interests of his political friends, who may by that means be enabled to capture the next nomination. Nomination will not, however, then mean election, for to achieve success in the next Presidential contest the republican party cannot afford to be divided. Congressmen will now likely devote their best energies to secure nomination and re-election in their respective districts, so that we need not expect the present session to become one of wrangling and endless discussion. What is wanted of the people's representatives is a steady attention to work, not in the interests of party, but of country. The members of both houses are therefore likely, with the approach of a con-

test at the polls, to quietly devote serious attention to the public weal, with the view of strengthening their own position and that of their political allies.

STRUCK FROM THE LIST.

Bishop Colenso of Natal has been, we learn, at last struck from the list of Anglican bishops. As the worthy prelate, however, still draws his salary, he cannot feel very much afflicted at the absence of his name from the list. We are no admirers of the views held and propounded by Dr. Colenso, but we must say that in point of ability and learning he has no peer in the Anglican Episcopate, except perhaps Dr. Magee of Peterborough. The anomalous position of Bishop Colenso holding and teaching doctrines pronounced unorthodox by the vast majority of Anglicans, and yet never condemned by any Anglican church authority, is a striking proof of the weakness of the system under which he holds office. If Dr. Colenso's views be really unorthodox and anti-christian, as some maintain, according to the standards of Anglicanism, should there not be some means within that religion to condemn him, stigmatize his doctrine, and remove him from the highest dignity known in the church? There is, however, no way of reaching the unorthodox in the church by law established but through the courts of law, and these in many cases are powerless to deal with such offenses as heresy, so called, and the rest. The Anglican establishment having surrendered itself to the state, or, to speak more correctly, being the very creature of that Caesarism, the embodiment of tyranny which so long filled the throne of England after the Reformation, is inert, lifeless and doomed to early extinction. A Church which cannot define its own form of belief or cannot exercise authority to enforce its judgments and decrees, cannot be tolerated in this age of enlightenment. Bishop Colenso has done a great deal to show to the world the absurd position of Anglicanism. His being struck from the list will not in the least diminish his influence with those who have chosen to follow him. We however, hope that his and their eyes may be opened to the holy truth of God and see their way into the one fold of which Christ is the shepherd.

ORANGE INCORPORATION.

Bills for the incorporation of the Grand Orange Lodges of Ontario East and West have been again introduced to the Local Legislature of this Province. These bills have been rejected year after year by increased majorities. It is not likely that their promoters will now be able to command any larger measure of support than last year. Orangeism is evidently in a sickly condition in every portion of Canada. Good citizens shun it—honest men despise it—all true Canadians spurn it. Devoid of even the faintest semblance of patriotism, honor, truth, or decency, this pernicious association has now ceased to attract public attention, as it has long since forfeited all claim to public respect. Orangeism themselves are beginning to see that the attempt to transplant from Ireland to Canada the feuds and bitterness which have made that country so unhappy, cannot be successful. The Canadian people are too earnest in their patriotism to permit to flourish in this rising country any system threatening to sever that civic brotherhood so necessary for our growth, so essential to our peace and happiness.

At a recent meeting of the county Lodge of the County of Carleton, held near the Dominion metropolis, the Secretary's report thus dolefully alludes to the state of Orangeism in Quebec: "During the past year events of very grave importance to the Orange order have transpired. As you may have read, the Orange institution in the Province of Quebec has, by the courts, been decided illegal, and should this decision not be set aside in the appeal which is now before the Supreme Court, I consider it will be very dangerous, not only to the Orangemen of the Province of Quebec, but also to those of Ontario, as our enemies will be-

come so emboldened by success as to try to suppress us in this the banner province of Canada." The worthy Secretary and the County Lodge may rest assured that no one in Ontario will seek to suppress their association. It is doing so much to suppress itself, and succeeding so admirably, that any outside interference might retard its dissolution and death. The Secretary invites Orangemen to band themselves in a "solid phalanx," prepared, "if necessary" to shed "the last drop of their Protestant blood" for the "sacred cause" handed down from "Derry, Anghrim and the Boyne," and again, "if necessary," to carry their appeal against the decisions of Her Majesty's law courts to the foot of that throne whose representatives they have so frequently insulted. With the mercury away down, no one knows how far below zero, the Secretary's invitation could not possibly, and did not, excite enthusiasm among the brethren. It is only under a burning July sun that Orangeism can be worked into such frantic excitement as to make its senseless devotees the ready dupes of designing leaders, more anxious for their own personal aggrandizement than for the destruction of Popery. Coming to Ontario, the genial scribe of the Carleton County Lodge says: "As you have doubtless read, the Ontario Legislature have not granted us an act of incorporation, and it is a disgrace to our opponents in that body, that we, the descendants of men who have struggled to make Ontario what it is, should now be deprived of a right freely granted to every other applicant." Disgrace is generally the result of some dishonorable action of which legislatures, like all other human assemblies, are sometimes capable; but is the Ontario Legislature fairly open to condemnation, even on the part of our non-Catholic fellow-citizens, because it refuses incorporation to the Orange Association? Ontario owes nothing to this body, which has inflicted grave injury on its best interests, driving by outrage and violence thousands of good citizens away, and debarring others from entering our Province. Every one acquainted with the history of Orangeism in this country must admit that it has brought more infamy and disgrace upon many portions of Canada than can be wiped out by years of peace and good order. The following again from the Secretary is quite refreshing: "Brethren, the remedy is in our own hands, and it is this, let us unite throughout the length and breadth of this Province, and pledge ourselves only to support candidates who will vote for the Incorporation Bill, and if neither political nominee will do so, run an independent candidate who will support the same, and let us rally around him, independent of politics, and show both parties in this Province that we only ask for our rights, and if they are not prepared to give them we will put men there who are independent of political or any other considerations." If Orangemen decide on the adoption of this remedy, the Act of Incorporation which they seek may possibly become law some time before this earthy sphere fades from view, but even that possibility is so very remote and uncertain as to give but little encouragement to the descendants of the men who have made "Ontario what it is."

But why have recourse to so tedious a remedy? Why not at once proceed to the "foot of the throne?" If Orange loyalty be so very meritorious, the Sovereign will not surely fail to recognize it, and give the brethren some substantial token of gratitude. If Orangemen are so confident that their "rights" will be respected by the crown, why appeal at all to the Supreme Court? why subject themselves to insult and vexatious delay at the hands of the Ontario Parliament? Let our Orange friends, by all means, betake themselves to the foot of the throne, and there await recognition.

A WARNING.

We have heard that there are agents canvassing in certain Catholic districts for a book, called "Tuttle's Dominion Encyclopedia" or something of the kind. We learn on good authority that the work is offensive to Catholics. We therefore warn our readers against purchasing it or in any way encouraging its agents.

OPENING OF THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

The British Parliament re-assembled on the 7th inst. The speech from the throne contains nothing startling—being in fact more remarkable for what it does not mention than for anything it promises in the way of useful legislation. Its references to foreign affairs are unusually meagre and uninteresting. The cession of Thessaly to Greece, the disturbed condition of Egypt and the proposed new commercial treaty with France receive brief notice. The Houses are also informed that the convention with the Transvaal has been ratified, and that the government of India has been enabled by the restoration of peace beyond the North Western frontier, together with continued internal tranquility, plentiful seasons and an increase of revenue, to resume works of public utility and devote its attention to measures for the further improvement of the condition of the people.

Coming to matters of purely domestic concern, the speech from the throne, after alluding to an improvement in the trade of the country, touches on the condition of Ireland. "This time," Parliament is assured, "compared with the beginning of last year, shows signs of improvement, and encourages the hope that perseverance in the course you pursued will be rewarded by the happy results so much to be desired." What these happy results are, this precious document does not state. If it be meant that perseverance in the policy of repression and violence inaugurated by the Gladstone Government can possibly keep alive that monstrous anomaly known as landlordism, we greatly fear that perseverance will not in this instance at least be rewarded by success. It is now patent to every one that the Irish policy of the government has been a total failure. The chiefs of the land league have been indeed imprisoned, but the movement of which they were the originators and guides has lost none of its vigor. The action of the land commissions established under the act of last session proves that there had been for years practised on the people under the name of rent, systematic extortion of an appalling character, and because the Irish people with their trusted leaders protested against this outrage, and took active measures to remove it, they have been subjected to legislation of an infamous and inhuman character. The government has had experience enough during the past two years of the inefficiency of coercion as a corrective of Irish miseries and discontent, and should now be fully convinced that no efforts either of government or individuals can save landlordism from utter ruin. The queen's speech holds out no hope of a relaxation of the coercion measures of last session. This is indeed to be regretted, for it cannot but result in an increase of bitterness between the various classes of people in Ireland. That unfortunate country has been always cursed with rancor and dissension, and it seems to be the special object of Government to keep alive every element of animosity between class and class—with the view, perhaps, of being in a better position to keep all in subjection. With the disappearance, however, of the landlord system in its present scandalous shape, with its infamous exactions and grinding despotism, one copious source of discord will be removed—and the Irish nation in a more promising condition as to the consolidation of its strength and the fixing of its purposes than it has been for centuries. No movement ever before inaugurated for the amelioration of Ireland has drawn the Irish people so closely together at home, while abroad Irishmen and sons of Irishmen are a unit on the necessity of the abolition of landlordism. When the people of Ireland own the land they till, much of the bitterness and rancor that to this moment have retarded the progress of the country will disappear, for then the Irish people will all have a common interest in the promotion of their country's prosperity. Irishmen abroad have in every walk of life shown themselves good citizens—lacking neither in enterprise, public