

A VIGOROUS PROTEST FROM THE ENGLISH SPEAKING CATHOLICS OF WINNIPEG

AGAINST THE STATEMENTS OF MR. JOHN O'DONOHUE.

On the eve of the recent election the Winnipeg Daily Tribune published an interview with one John O'Donohue, of this city, in which Mr. O'Donohue made certain false and misleading statements in the name of the English speaking Catholics regarding their attitude on the school question.

The address said:— To His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Tache, O. M. L., Archbishop of St. Boniface. May it please Your Grace.

We, on behalf of the English speaking Catholics of Winnipeg, wish to gather around your Grace on this the forty-second anniversary of your consecration, for the purpose of offering to you our most hearty congratulations on this great and auspicious event, and to express the hope that our Heavenly Father may long spare a life so precious to this Church and so dear to the hearts of all your loyal and devoted children.

We are conscious, My Lord, of all that you have done for the cause of religion and patriotism in this country, of the arduous labors and numerous trials you have had to endure in advancing the material, educational and religious interests of your flock, of the great pain it caused you to see those labors of a lifetime rudely and unjustly invaded by the abolition of our Catholic schools.

But, painful as this has been to your Grace, and unjust as it has been to us, we can bear it with fortitude and resignation in the firm hope that God in His own good time, will bring us relief. We may charitably believe that this persecution comes from men who do not fully understand and realize the great wrong they are doing us, and we may say with Our Lord: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they say."

That they should misunderstand and misrepresent us, we can realize, but when a man professing to be of our household, and to speak in our name, deliberately and flagrantly insults our Archbishop and his devoted clergy, and maliciously states that he is voicing our sentiments in so doing, it becomes our duty in the interest of truth, justice and religion, to give such statements the most unqualified and explicit denial.

We cannot, My Lord, Archbishop, express the feeling of indignation and shame which seized us at seeing in a public print, the mendacious statement made in our name by Mr. John O'Donohue that the English-speaking Catholics are not in sympathy with Your Grace and the devoted clergy of your archdiocese on the school question, that the opposition to the common schools, (that is the present provincial schools) is mainly due to the French-Canadian Catholics; that a large and increasing number of English speaking Catholics have practically acquiesced in Mr. Martin's views on the school question, and believed it would be for the best interests of the whole people if one system of undenominational free schools should prevail in the country.

We do not make these statements for the purpose of assuring your Grace of our loyal and devoted attachment to you, our Chief Pastor and Archbishop. You know your flock, and your flock knows you. We are practical Catholics, and understand our duties to our Church and bishop and children, and we will ever resent the attempt of anyone who, either in ignorance or malice, dares to charge us with indifference to our principles or disrespect for our bishop.

assure your Grace of our most devoted attachment to yourself and your most devoted clergy, with whom we are a unit, not only on matters of Catholic education, but on all other questions of faith and morals.

- D. SMITH, E. CASS, P. MARRIN, J. JOBIN, M. CONWAY, J. M. WOODFORD, N. BAWLE, W. BROWNSHIG, T. L. EGAN, W. T. POWERS, E. DOWDALL, D. B. MCILROY, A. MCGILLIS, M. HUGHES, J. G. CARROLL, W. WALSH, R. DRISCOLL, E. L. THOMAS, J. R. WYNNE, J. K. BARRETT, K. McDONALD, C. MCNIERNEY, T. McNARY, J. McILROY, M. S. GALLAGHER, J. MADDEN, A. M. MCKINNON, J. J. GOLDEN, E. C. EGAN, J. NAGLE, J. RUSSELL, D. E. MCKENTY, P. O'DONNELL, J. TOBIN, T. D. DEEGAN, F. SHEA, H. A. RUSSELL, P. H. KANE, J. HAVERTY, G. YOUNG, T. G. MILLAR, T. COYLE, M. PURCELL, D. HALLEN, J. SCULLY, J. BAWLE, M. McMANUS, F. J. CONNELL, A. M. KLINKHAMMER, E. J. DERMODY, J. PERRY, J. D. McDONALD, J. DUNN, A. H. KENNEDY, C. O'KELLY, A. H. KENNEDY.

His Grace, in reply, stated that he did not require this address to convince him of the loyalty of the English speaking Catholics who had proved their devotion to our Catholic schools. Nevertheless the address gave him pleasure and pain—pleasure in knowing that the Catholics of Winnipeg had shown such promptness in disavowing the sentiments of opposition against our schools, and pain that even one man could be found giving expression to sentiments so contrary to the teaching of our Holy Father on the question of Catholic education.

Such statements were an insult to Catholics, and they were only doing their duty in at once repudiating them. "But we have one duty to perform," said his Grace, "and that is to pray for the author of those false statements; and I invite you, my dear friends, to join me in praying for him. He has been the cause of a grave and unprovoked scandal. He has insulted you, and you are right in protesting against the insult. As for myself, we forgive him, and will pray for him." His Grace then concluded by stating that the teaching of the Holy Father was on the necessity of religious Catholic education for the children of the Church.

The deputation, after personally congratulating his Grace on the feast of the day and expressing the hope that he might live to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of his consecration, withdrew.

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Ecclesiastical Province of St. Boniface.

- I. HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION. 1. All Sundays in the year. 2. Jan. 1st. The Circumcision. 3. Jan. 6th. The Epiphany. 4. The Ascension. 5. Nov. 1st. All Saints. 6. Dec. 8th. The Immaculate Conception. 7. Dec. 25th. Christmas. II. DAYS OF FAST. 1. The forty days of Lent. 2. The Wednesdays and Fridays in Advent. 3. The Ember days, at the four Seasons being the Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays. a. The first week in Lent. b. Whitsun Week. c. The third week in September. d. The third week in Advent. 4. The Vigils of a. Whitsunday. b. The Solemnity of SS. Peter and Paul. c. The Solemnity of the Assumption. d. All Saints. e. Christmas. III. DAYS OF ABSTINENCE. All Fridays in the year. Wednesdays in Advent. Fridays in Holy week. Thursdays in Holy week. Saturdays in Holy week. The Ember Days. The Vigils above mentioned.

Do you agree with the Catholic Bishops that with the Roman Church?—St. Ambrose (A. D. 385-397).

CHURCH NOTICES.

CATHEDRAL ST. BONIFACE. Sundays—Masses at 8 and 10.30, a. m. Vespers at 3 p. m. Week Days—Masses at 8.30 and 7.30 a. m. ST. MARY'S CHURCH. Situated on the corner of St. Mary and Hargrave Streets, served by the Oblates of St. Mary. Very Rev. Adelard Langevin, Superior of the Oblates Rev. Father Fox, Rector, Rev. Fathers McCarthy and O'Dwyer, assistants. Catechism for boys in the church at 3 p. m. Catechism for girls in St. Mary's Convent, Notre Dame Street at 4 p. m. Sundays—Masses at 7.30, 8.30 and 10.30 a. m. Vespers at 7.15 p. m. Week Days—Masses at 8.30 and 7.30. IMMACULATE CONCEPTION. Situated on Austin St. in Point Douglas, Rev. A. A. Cherrier, Rector. Catechism for boys, who have made their first Communion, at St. Joseph's school McWilliam St. west, cor. Ellen St. for younger boys and girls learning the short Catechism, and for those studying the Catechism for Perseverance, at the Immaculate Conception church, by the Rev. Father Cherrier. Sundays—Masses at 8.30 a. m. with short instruction, and at 10.30 a. m. with sermon. Vespers at 7.15 p. m. Week days—Mass at 7.30 a. m.

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