

The Catholic Weekly Review.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CANADA,

Reddite que sunt Cesaris Cesari; et que sunt Dei Deo.—Matt. 22: 21.

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LETTER

FROM HIS GRACE THE ARCHBISHOP OF TORONTO.

ST. MICHAEL'S PALACE, Toronto, 29th Dec., 1886.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have singular pleasure indeed in saying God-speed to your intended journal, THE CATHOLIC WEEKLY REVIEW. The Church, contradicted on all sides as her Divine Founder was, hails with peculiar pleasure the assistance of her lay children in dispelling ignorance and prejudice. They can do this nobly by public journalism, and as the press now appears to be an universal instructor for either good or evil, and since it is frequently used for evil in disseminating false doctrines and attributing them to the Catholic Church, your journal will do a very great service to Truth and Religion by its publication.

Wishing you all success and many blessings on your enterprise,

I am, faithfully yours,

† JOHN JOSEPH LYNCH,

Archbishop of Toronto.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

Cardinal Gibbons took possession, on Friday last, of his titular church, the Basilica de Santa Maria.

The Vatican has been advised from Vienna and Berlin that Austria, Germany and Italy, during the continuance of the alliance between them, will not permit the subversion of the Papacy, and will support the Pope's independence and liberty.

Mgr. Rampolla del Tindaro, the Papal Nuncio at Madrid, was on Tuesday invested with the Cardinal's hat. The members of the royal family, the Cabinet ministers, and all the foreign diplomats attended the ceremonies, which were held in the royal chapel.

In a second report on the Knights of Labour, Cardinal Gibbons states that the great question of the future is not a question of war, commerce or finance, but the social question, touching the amelioration of the condition of the popular masses, especially the workingmen; that the condition of the lower classes at present cannot, and should not continue; and that it is of sovereign importance that the Church should be found always firmly ranged on the side of humanity and justice towards the multitude composing the body of the human family.

Monsignor Galimberti has failed to secure any satisfactory results in his negotiations with the Centre or Catholic party of Germany. In consequence of the adoption by the Landtag of Bishop Kopp's amendment to the ecclesiastical law, the Vatican has decided to leave the Centre party full liberty of action in German political affairs, retaining also the same freedom for itself. Mgr. Galimberti

was accorded a farewell audience on Monday and will take with him to Rome an autograph letter from the Emperor William to the Pope. It is rumoured he will return to Berlin after Easter, when a better opportunity will be afforded for a settlement of political questions.

On Monday, in the English House of Commons, Mr. Balfour, the Irish Secretary, moved the first reading of the eighty-seventh Irish Coercion Measure. The present Bill, which provides for the total abolition of the jury system in Ireland, clothes with full jurisdiction, in such matters even as the liberties of free speech and the press, a stipendiary magistracy holding office under, and responsible to Dublin Castle authorities, and gives power to the Government to change the venue of cases from Kerry to Belfast, or England, at pleasure. "With this Coercion Bill," said Mr. Gladstone, in opposition to the measure, one of the most insulting and exasperating conditions of which is its permanent duration, "the prospect of conciliation has vanished into thin air." A demand, he said, was made upon the House to commit as formidable a breach of trust as a popular assembly could perpetrate. Coming in the teeth of the testimony of the Irish Under-Secretary, General Buller, before the Cowper Commission, as to the rack-rented condition of the Irish tenantry, and at a time when all statistics prove the nearly entire absence of agrarian crime in the country, the measure has provoked the extremest indignation. The *Pall Mall Gazette* holds that the measure would justify insurrection; the *Daily News*, and other organs of Liberal opinion, denouncing it as the most unjust and uncalled for ever introduced into Parliament. Mr. Gladstone, in a speech which exposed the falsity and feebleness of the Government's reasons for coercion, announced that the Opposition would insist upon the fullest examination of the measure, and the fullest scope for scrutinizing and sifting the extreme nature of the proposals.