

The Catholic Record

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All matter intended for publication must have the name of the writer attached, and must reach the office not later than Tuesday noon of each week.THOMAS 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. I am confident that under your experienced management the Record will improve in usefulness and efficiency; and I therefore earnestly commend it to the patronage and encouragement of the clergy and laity of the diocese. Believe me,
Yours very sincerely,
+ JOHN WALSH,
Bishop of London.

Mr. THOMAS COFFEY,
Office of the "Catholic Record."

Catholic Record.

LONDON, FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 1881.

Diocesan Contributions Towards the New Cathedral.

The Rev. Father Tierney, Chancellor of the Diocese, thankfully acknowledges the following contributions from the Diocese, towards the erection of the new Cathedral:

April 21, St. Anne's, Rev. P. Andreux, Pastor, \$115 00
May 17, Maistone, Rev. F. J. Ouellette, Pastor, 250 00
" 21, Windsor, Very Rev. Dean Wagner, Pastor 500 00

THE IRISH LAND AGITATION.

While the land bill is dragging itself slowly and wearily through the mazes of Parliamentary procedure—the agitation is gaining ground with alarming rapidity in Ireland. The government now seems bewildered by the results of its cowardice and indiscretion. The early part of the session was consumed in pushing through the legislature measures for the complete suppression of freedom in Ireland, or in the distortion of Parliamentary rule to silence the voice of Ireland's chosen representatives. Now, in the midst of summer, after varied promises and empty threats by ministers, Ireland is without a land bill. Well, the sooner the government realizes the fact that without a land bill there can be no peace for Ireland, and no security for England, the better for all concerned. Coercion Acts and Arms Acts cannot settle the land question. The solution of that vital question demands vigor, honesty, and earnestness. The Gladstone Government took the seals of office with an apparent determination to remove the iniquities and infamies of landlordism. Ireland did indeed hope that when the British constituencies indignantly rejected Lord Beaconsfield's vulgar appeal to their prejudices, with the advent of a new administration, justice would be at length done her. But she hoped in vain, as she had often hoped before. The new liberal administration displayed from the first a lamentable weakness in dealing with Irish questions. The failure of Parliament last year to do anything to right the wrongs of the Irish tenantry—was by the friends of the administration attributed to the House of Lords—and much was promised for the present session. When Parliament re-assembled last spring, the Irish members anxious to lend their assistance and influence to the government in the furtherance of any just scheme for the settlement of the land difficulty, saw at once that landlord influence was paramount, even in the liberal government. A land bill was indeed promised in the speech from the throne. But before it could be introduced the landed influence demanded the application to Ireland of two measures of unheard of cruelty and terror. These measures were urged on with indecent haste by the government. Members were suspended, removed, or silenced, and freedom of discussion, so long the proud boast of the Parliament of Britain, made a shadow and a nullity. At length, the Premier brings down a land bill, containing many excellent provisions, but surrounded

with a machinery so cumbrous as to make it very difficult of application to the just requirements of the tenantry. Does the government now show the same determination to secure legislative sanction for this very imperfect measure of reform, but still a measure of reform for Ireland, as it displayed in the case of the Arms and Coercion acts. Not at all. The policy of Britain with regard to Ireland has been always one of brutal haste when the work of legal oppression and military terrorism is to be done. When, however, justice is to be meted out to a patient and long-suffering people, Britain proceeds with heartless slowness. The land bill has now occupied the attention of the Commons for nearly two months, and has not yet reached its third reading. We now look upon it as doubtful if it ever escapes the tortures of the committee of the whole house. Meanwhile, Ireland is in a ferment of disorder and agitation. No man feels secure in life or liberty. The government has adopted a course of arbitrary arrest which has provoked a great deal of discontent. Public meetings have been unconstitutionally and with violence suppressed. Innocent and unoffending men cast into prison; the most sacred rights of citizenship invaded. We have much of the increase of the so-called agrarian outrages, under the influence of the land agitation. When it is known that the whistling of a popular air, or the singing of a patriotic song, are classed amongst agrarian outrages, the figures reporting an increase in crimes of agrarian violence will be readily understood. The fact is that although Ireland is to-day agitated from sea to sea, by a deep sense of a wrong which her children have resolved, come what may, to remove, is remarkably free from crimes of violence of all kinds. There have been indeed crimes committed in connection with land troubles since the land league was formed, but these crimes cannot be attributed to the inculcation of the principles of that body. The land league has used its best efforts to conduct the agitation peacefully and constitutionally. The people in most instances have cheerfully responded to the advice of their leaders—and thus frustrated the designs of their foes. Steadiness in the same good purpose is now all that is required to bring success on the cause of the emancipation of Ireland's tenantry.

ARCHBISHOP CROKE.

The recent triumphal progress of Dr. Croke through his diocese is in itself strong evidence of the strength of the land movement. Irish public opinion has closely identified the name of this eminent prelate with the land agitation for the reason that he has taken such just ground in his frequent and lucid expositions of the rights of the tenantry. Dr. Croke's diocese is situated in one of the most naturally fertile portions of Ireland. In no part of the world can cereals of a better quality be raised; nowhere else can pasturage richer or more varied be found. Yet by the iniquitous system of landlordism prevailing in Ireland, this magnificent territory fails to give competence and often subsistence to its industrious people. The latter toil but to satisfy the rapacity of landlords, who in many cases squander their ill-gotten wealth abroad. The tenant farmer, having to meet an exorbitant rental, cannot improve his holding. If by any good fortune he possess means sufficient to enable him to effect any amelioration on his land or buildings—he dreads the increased rent to which he thereby exposes himself. Thus in a land of plenty, poverty, decay and retrogression are everywhere visible. To Dr. Croke it must at once have appeared anomalous that a people so very industrious, so intelligent and energetic as the Irish, should suffer the evils of periodical famine and constant misery, while the soil of Ireland yields so readily and so abundantly all the elements of human sustenance. In no other country could such a monstrous anomaly be so long maintained. And the Irish people are but doing their duty in demanding its removal. Dr. Croke

has taken active part in the work of educating the people on the land question. His advice, which will, we feel confident, be followed by Irishmen, will save the agitation from the very semblance of that revolutionary complexion, which the enemies of Ireland seek to give it. The Archbishop of Cashel declares that the Irish people, in their war on landlord rapacity, "must succeed." When success does come his name will be blessed by the eternal gratitude of a noble race—on account of his services to God and country.

THE REVISED EDITION.

The "Revised Edition" of the New Testament does not appear to grow in popularity. The Protestant clergy of all denominations have with few exceptions given it hearty approval, but their approval has fallen coldly on the ears of the people. Many even of the clergy themselves evidently desire a more thorough revision than that now before the public. A revision throwing into doubt many, if not all the fundamental doctrines of Christianity, is certain to find much favor from the Protestant pulpit. But the revisers, though "thorough" enough in many respects, have left a sufficient quantity of Scripture to render the book distasteful if not useless to many who preach to eliminate Christianity from national and individual life. The effect of the revision will be to remove the old-time Protestant *soi-disant* respect for Holy Writ, "without note or comment." It will also beget other revisions, till King James' Bible will be looked upon as an object of interest solely from a literary or antiquarian point of view. Many of the changes made in the gospels are capricious and absurd, and we have yet to be convinced that the New Work is superior in literary excellence to that which it is designed to supplant. We look for some interesting developments when the various sects come to the discussion of the merits and demerits of the "revised edition."

A DESERVED COMPLIMENT.

Under the heading "An Honorable Career," the Toronto Tribune of last week refers in very flattering terms to our talented Hamilton correspondent, Mr. C. Donovan. We feel certain our readers have read his letters weekly for the past twelve months with a good deal of interest. They will be pleased to know that he is succeeding so well in his noble ambition to rank among the very highest in the country as an educationist. He is, as has been said a self-made man, and in every walk of life in which he has moved success has attended him in a remarkable degree. The following touching his recent examination in Toronto, we copy from the paper above alluded to:—

We take some pride in noticing the career of Mr. Cornelius Donovan, of Hamilton, who has just passed his fourth and final examination in Arts, at the Toronto University. Mr. Donovan took first-class honors in English Literature, in British (including Irish) constitutional History, and in etymology. His career has been somewhat remarkable. He began to study when the Separate schools were first established in Hamilton. He never attended any other institution of learning; but the Hamilton Separate schools were, and are, places of real instruction, and the subject of this note took advantage of all the facilities they offered for his own improvement. His commercial career, so to speak, opened with a situation as newsboy on the Times newspaper, of Hamilton, a respected contemporary which has exceptional reasons for being proud of its personal associations. From being newsboy, Mr. Donovan got to be foreman, and subsequently, to be teacher in the Separate schools, where now he occupies the honored position of Head Master, in what may be said, without flattery, to be far the best—all things considered—of the Separate schools in Ontario. Many who remember Mr. Donovan's early struggles will be glad to hear that he has achieved such a fair measure of success. We believe he is the first Separate school pupil who has ever succeeded in winning a B. A. degree with honors out of Toronto University, that is, without having gone to any other institution to finish off. Mr. Donovan took a first-class A Certificate as school teacher in 1869, when the Rev. Dr. Ormiston was chairman of the Board of Examiners. Mr. Donovan deserves much credit for his steady and continued perseverance in the search for knowledge; but it must after all be acknowledged that the system which can inspire a young man—or to put it more modestly—which does not dissuade him from pursuing, can hardly be without some features to be commended to the favor of the public as a valuable one for the instruction of youth, and for their encouragement in aspiring to deeds of daring, which, inasmuch as they have no more dash about them, but long years of hard work, are far more deserving applause than many deeds of heroism on the "tented field."

THE DEAD-LOCK AT ALBANY.

The legislature of New York is still employed in a vain endeavor to choose successors to Messrs. Conkling and Platt, whose resignation of their places as United States Senators astounded the country some weeks ago. These gentlemen having once more presented themselves for re-election, the friends of the Garfield administration resolved to offer them bitter opposition. The democratic party controls but fifty-four votes on the joint ballot of the two houses, and cannot therefore of itself fill the vacant places. The Conkling party numbers from thirty to thirty-five—while the administration republicans can count in more than fifty votes. Thus the legislature is divided into three parties, neither one of which can do anything without a coalition with one of the others. Any combination likely to secure the election of a Democrat would certainly give mortal offence to a large portion of the republican party in New York State. We are, however, of opinion—judging from the latest advices received from Albany—that if Conkling desires to secure re-election, he must conciliate with the Democrats, and take Kemar or Jacobs as a colleague. The breach in the republican ranks is wider and uglier than at this distance it appears, and, however, the dead-lock may terminate, Republican strength will be weakened, and the chances of an early Democratic triumph brightened.

THE BIDDULPH SENSATION MONGERS.

The township of Biddulph is unfortunately afflicted with a small number of mischievous men who, for some purpose best known to themselves, make a practice of writing letters to the newspapers, giving details of outrages which have never occurred. Some time since these malicious persons sent their productions to the London press, and in some instances our city editors, thoughtlessly, we would fain believe—inserted them. In most cases these sensations were promptly branded as false in every particular. The London press is now more guarded in this connection, and these mischief-makers have commenced to patronize the Toronto dailies. A few weeks since the people of this neighborhood were startled to find in the Mail, of the above named city, the relation of an outrage perpetrated by burglars on the house of Daniel Munro, on the St. Mary's Road. They were described as Biddulphites, and the person who sent the despatch of course prefaced it with the remark that the spirit of lawlessness still exists in Biddulph. Daniel Munro writes promptly to the Mail, stating that he knows nothing whatever about such an occurrence. Most people will conclude that Mr. Munro should be considered an authority in the matter. In the interests of truth and justice the Toronto Mail should give the public the name of the individual who thus, in a most cowardly fashion, attempted to bring odium on the residents of the township of Biddulph. That there are a few bad men in Biddulph, such as will be found in every other township in Canada, no one will question. But we hesitate not to assert that this place contains as many upright, honest, and law-abiding farmers as any other district of a like population in the Dominion.

A TIMELY BOOK.

Rev. Father Dawson, of Ottawa, has just published a work on the North-west territories and British Columbia. It contains a vast amount of information which will be found very interesting, more particularly to those who may contemplate settling in the new districts now being so rapidly filled up. The Ottawa Free Press thus refers to the work:—
"It would be superfluous for us to remark upon the excellent and scholarly style of the work. Mr. Dawson's fame being established as one of the best of our Canadian writers. In the present work he has shown great facility for grasping and arranging facts and presenting in a pleasing, as well as a vivid, manner the peculiarities and attractions of our great Northwest. It is also evident that Mr. Dawson brought to his task a patriotic desire to do justice to the Dominion, and in many of the passages we recognize the eloquence and power of description which form so marked and attractive a feature

of his former works. We hope the book will have a wide circulation, and that it may be as peculiarly profitable to the author as it is honorable to his intellect."

THE REGULAR WEEKLY FABRICATION.

Once a week the individual who supplies the cable items deems it his duty to tell us what the Pope says and thinks and how he feels in regard to Ireland. Last week we were gravely informed that he was "much depressed by the active participation of the Irish clergy in the land agitation, despite his expressed injunctions, and that he had laid the matter before the Congregation for Extraordinary Ecclesiastical Affairs, in order to recall disobedient bishops to duty." Next week we fully expect to have the announcement that "there is no truth in this report," &c. The Irish Bishops are nobly doing their duty in the present crisis, and English intrigue will have as little weight with the Holy Father as with the Irish Bishops.

The inaccuracies of the Atlantic cable reporter are oftentimes amusing enough. The Government and the landlords control the business, hence the misrepresentations of Irish affairs. Last week we were also told that John Dillon's father had issued writs of ejectment against his tenants. As John Dillon's father has been many years in his grave, the associated press agent has by this falsehood placed himself in a rather ridiculous plight. But this is not the only case. He gravely tells us that a son of Lord Dunsandle has been shot in Ireland. As the noble lord never had a son, this will be strange news to him. It is a pity that the associated press will not send the man at the other end of the cable about his business, and put in his place a gentleman with whom truth and honor should be paramount considerations. For some time the news from Europe has been a jumble of facts and falsehoods, with the latter predominating. There appears to be a villainous device on the part of the English authorities to destroy sympathy for Ireland in America.

MORE SECURITY.

We hope that active measures will be taken to guard against every possible accident attending excursion parties during the present season. The dreadful occurrence of a few weeks since is surely a terrible warning, and those who have been careless in this regard will, it is to be hoped, profit by this fearful experience. As a rule proper accommodation has not been provided on excursion days, and proper precautions have not been taken against accident. But while this should be attended to with greater vigilance, the authorities should also guard against the lawlessness caused by intemperance on these occasions. Of all the despicable creatures in existence, the drunken rowdy in an excursion party is perhaps the worst specimen. He wants to raise a fight—he is anxious to thrash somebody—but he invariably becomes most demonstrative in a crowd of women and children. One of these individuals was recently sent to the Central Prison for six months for acting in this manner. The picnic season will therefore be over before he will again have an opportunity to make matters unpleasant for a gathering of pleasure seekers. We hope a like punishment will be the rule in future for such cases as this. The excursion rowdy will then find it prudent either to remain at home or learn how to behave himself.

THE QUEBEC FIRE.

The city of Quebec has been always unfortunate in regard of fire. Several times extensive conflagrations have reduced large and populous portions of that ancient and beautiful city to ruin. It is so now once more. One of the very best districts inside the civic limits of Quebec is today a smouldering heap of ashes. Seven hundred houses in the St. John suburbs were burned in the fire of last week, and fifty thousand people rendered homeless. We tender our hearty sympathy to the ancient capital in its misfortune, and hope that the ruin caused by the fire may be speedily obliterated—and beautiful structures rise from the ashes of those destroyed.

PRACTICAL SYMPATHY.

Many generous people have offered heartfelt sympathy to the sufferers by the late calamity, and accompanied it by tangible sums of money to assist in helping the needy. We must confess we cannot place much value on sympathy assuming the shape solely of a piece of paper with some formal verbiage concerning the accident. This is at best but a very cold form of sympathy, and is possessed of precious little market value. People who possess a genuine sympathetic nature will accompany their resolutions with a substantial token of their sincerity. It is rather humiliating to see prominent bodies of wealthy men growing eloquent and resolute with a large amount of vigor anent the terrible misfortune which has fallen upon our city, but not a cent of money do they contribute to help in alleviating the sad consequences of the accident. Many instances of individual generosity have come under our notice, but none deserving more praise than that of Mr. Cote, of St. Hyacinthe, a gentleman who never lived in London, but from the goodness of his heart, sent to Mr. Regan, of this city, the sum of \$50, for the relief of the distressed.

We would be pleased to see more acts of this sort among men who would scarcely miss the amount thus bestowed on a worthy object.

CATHOLIC BOOKS.

Our readers will find in another column a list of choice Catholic books which we now keep in stock for sale. At the present day, when there is such a very great desire for light reading, it is important that persons who can spare time to read, should be furnished with matter which will be a source of profit as well as amusement. In this list will be found some of the most popular works by well known Catholic writers. None of them contain those objectionable features which render most of the novels of the period a positive curse in the households of our people, containing, as they often do, horrible details of every vice, and frequently malignant and false allusions to the Catholic faith. The price at which we offer these books is within the reach of all, and we hope they will have a large circulation among our people.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Catholics of St. John on Monday evening presented Bishop Sweeney with an address and a purse of over \$600. He also received an address from the Catholics of Portland, who gave him \$200. The Bishop was the recipient of several other handsome gifts. The money he intends to donate to St. Patrick's Industrial School.

PRINCE ALLESANDRO TORLONIA, of Rome, believes in practical charity. He keeps two doctors especially to attend poor families who have a horror of hospitals; he entirely provides for 300 children, and educates 350 more; he has established an asylum for old people, and an hospital for the blind. Every day he gives 120 dishes of soup with bread and meat to the poor. It is said that no one ever applied to him in vain for help.

THE Portland Argus says that a Vermont clergyman is reported as closing a sermon recently in this eloquent strain: "After crossing the mystic river we shall go on from the man to the angel, from the angel to the archangel, from the archangel to the celestial, from the celestial to the divine, and then, gathering the stars in clusters about our heads, dream out our endless dream of eternity."—Happy being! It would indeed appear as though he had been there, and was allowed to come back and tell "his experiences."

A VERY UNUSUAL incident occurred on Sunday morning in the Church of Notre Dame, says the Chicago Western Catholic. Rev. Ambrosius Gilet, while celebrating his first Mass, was assisted by his father, Rev. J. Gilet, as assistant priest. The latter was at one time a prominent druggist in this city and raised a large family, but on the death of his wife he studied for the priesthood and was ordained four years ago. His son also studied for the Church and was ordained last week.

At the present moment, whether through the workings of an ill-judged foreign policy, or disgust on the part of foreign Powers at the pretensions of this country, Italy stands isolated, and almost devoid of any faithful ally. The Irredenta agitation, it not openly, yet tacitly encouraged by the Government, has alienated the

sympathies of Germany. Austria has never been a friend on whom Italians might reckon. Russia too much occupied by home affairs at present. And England is regarded as completely ignoring the "policy of sentiment," which prevails in modern Italy.

On Easter Sunday the Rev. Father Schiel, of Kronstadt, Germany, preached at the High Mass on the subject, "Why do so many people find it hard to understand the doctrine of the immortality of the soul?" He spoke in a lofty strain, a closed with the words: "Beyond stars love keeps its ward." Hesitancy could be perceived in tones, but when the choir recommenced he was seen to totter a fall. Several gentlemen rushed forward to raise him up, and carried him to his residence, where he expired shortly afterwards.

THE London Daily News in a long article Friday morning said: "It is doubtful whether the poverty possessed by the Government, in the widest interpretation of the word, could suggest, would give authority for the formal suppression of the Land League." The government would not be likely to trust itself much about legal authority, they to deem it prudent to attend the suppression of the Land League. The real reason why they do not because it would be simply impossible to effect such an object. would first of all have to build enough to hold about four million people, men and women.

JUSTIN MCCARTHY'S speech attracting much attention. He what the Irishmen most wanted a domestic parliament. I would be a willing partner in a perial Parliamentary system the right to make her own laws. How had England got Ireland? Ireland was brought within measurable distance of war. England was as little defend herself from the resher dominion in Ireland as was in Poland, or Austria in V. The present system of parliamentary machinery was inadequate to work. Look at the amount of burning, of ger, and almost all strife the present system creating. The Liberal Party gone to shipwreck over the question in trying to main centralization system.

THE Dublin Freeman's correspondent writing on May 18th, "I have just had a run down West, and as I went and can station along the route with emigrants. The part the cries of these poor people bring a tear from a stone cularly as they shot a last glance at their miserable bed homesteads, that awe distance, bore the sweeping drives over those vast u plains of the county Galwa and many were the cries who remained on the pla shook a little farewell emember the Governme driving away." Sure! myself, these people will r a vengeance."

THE Cincinnati Commem a solemn suggestion to justers of the Bible. It s have persuaded themselves lieve that there might tory after all: "It is as the substitution of the u Greek word 'hades' for 'tain passages, does not trines of the existence of still find the word 'hell' i of the texts which are by those who hold the endless future punishment not the formal recognition visors of 'hades,' a local unknown to the Protest strengthen the theory intermediate state? I not hell—as the revisers that it is not—neither sume that it is not her then, is not 'hades'—th parted spirits—which heaven nor hell? Man' be that intermediate sta by the Church of Rom purgatory."

THE New York Tim pay this tribute to t "While the Protestant come of over \$10,000 p allowed cushioned seat stained-glass window arches or grand dome delights of color and and music, the poor less he sat in chair obliged to content hir pews, bare walls, nar poor painting or mea His places of worship mal abodes. No str have ever decorate them. He has had enjoy, and worse th house has often only