

The Catholic Weekly Review.

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

Reddite que sunt Caesaris, Caesari; et quae sunt Dei, Deo.—Matt 22: 21.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Pope has requested Cardinal Simeoni to advise the Irish Bishops to preach to the people of Ireland respect for the laws, and to maintain a calm and prudent line of conduct. The Pope has also announced his intention to send to Ireland a permanent apostolic legae.

It is announced that Lord Lansdowne, on leaving Canada this year, will relieve Lord Dufferin in the Viceroyalty of India, who is anxious to return home this winter. Lord Stanley, of Preston, a brother of the Earl of Derby, it is understood will be the next Governor-General.

Archbishop MacEvilly, at the opening of the annual retreat at Tuam cathedral, on Wednesday, declared that he had authority to deny the rumors that the Pope is opposed to the legitimate aspirations of the Irish people. The high position of his Holiness imposed reserve, but he had never turned against Ireland.

At the meeting of the Parnellite members in London on Thursday, Messrs. Biggar, Deasy, Shiel and Carew were appointed whips. It was decided that Mr. Parnell should formulate an amendment to the Queen's address, raising the question as to the administration of the Crimes Act. Mr. Parnell stated that the object of his Land Bill was to reduce the time for the judicial revision of rents from 15 to 7 years, and give to tenants further rights over improvements. Mr. Parnell appears in better health, although his voice is husky. He says he hopes that he will be able to be constantly in his place in Parliament during the fighting period of the session.

The English issue in the coming session will be the Local Government Bill, and it is possible that the Irish issue will be Lord Clanricarde. Lord Clanricarde is a rich man who would still be rich if he did not draw a penny from his Irish property. What makes the case particularly bad is, that the land court would give the tenants adequate protection if they could once get into it. The few of his tenants who have been able to bring their rents before the court, have had them reduced by thirty-eight per cent. Before they can go into court, however, they must put up their arrears in full, and here is where Lord Clanricarde has the whip-hand over them. He can, if he pleases, depopulate half of Galway, and sweep 1,500 tenants off the land.

In the Queen's speech read at the opening of the English Parliament on Thursday, the result, it was said, of the legislation passed last session "for the benefit of Ireland," has, so far as tested, been satisfactory.

Mr. Gladstone, on entering the House, was loudly cheered. Lord Hartington at once left his seat and went and shook hands with him, when they sat down and entered into an animated conversation, which lasted for some time. After the usual notices of motion, including one by Mr. Parnell for the introduction of a bill to amend the Irish Land Law Amendment Act, Mr. Gladstone rose to criticise the Queen's speech. He rose, he said, to speak at this early stage of the debate hoping that he might contribute to expedite the business before the House. He could congratulate the Government on some aspects of their foreign policy. The question of the Afghan boundary, so long a source of danger to two great empires, was settled—a great thing in itself, and he trusted that it would modify the jealousies existing regarding the territorial extensions of Russia. So far as he was aware, no other cause for misunderstanding remained between the two nations.

Referring to Ireland, Mr. Gladstone said: "While the Opposition are anxious to expedite the business, the Government policy in Ireland could not be lightly passed over. The address declares that crimes of an agrarian character have diminished, and that conspiracy have sensibly decreased through the careful execution of the Crimes Act. He was disposed to substitute for 'careful' some very different word. The whole subject of the administration of coercion must through an amendment be debated. He would not anticipate the debate, but could not pass over the assertion that the Irish people under Coercion had become more reconciled to the law. When he looked back fifty years upon the exuberancy of crime under a pressure of difficulties not less than now, he was amazed at the progress made in self-command. Self control was more and more becoming a habit of the Irish people. It was owing to this fact that agrarian crime had lessened. But the Government could not be congratulated on assisting to diminish the number of offences."