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LETTER FROM HIS LORDSHIP BISHOP WALSH.

London, Ont., May 23, 1879.
DEAR MR. COPPEY.—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 principles; 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 COPPEY,
Office of the "Catholic Record."

LETTER FROM BISHOP CLEARY.

Bishop's Palace, Kingston, 13th Nov. 1882.
DEAR SIR.—I am happy to be asked for a word of commendation to the Rev. Clergy and faithful laity of my diocese in behalf of the CATHOLIC RECORD, published in London with the warm approval of His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. Walsh. I am a subscriber to the journal and am much pleased with its excellent literary and religious character. Its judicious selection from the best writers supply Catholic families with most useful and interesting matter for Sunday readings, and help the young to acquire a taste for pure literature.

I shall be pleased if my Rev. Clergy will commend your mission for the diffusion of the RECORD among their congregations.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES VINCENT CLEARY,
Bishop of Kingston.

MR. DONAT CROWE, Agent for the CATHOLIC RECORD.

Catholic Record.

LONDON, FRIDAY, DEC. 15, 1882.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION.

The festival of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary is one that endures joy, hope and thanksgiving in every Catholic heart. It is the commemoration of the august privileges, the celebration of the glory and triumphs of the ever venerable and Immaculate Mother of God. It is the solemn declaration of belief on the part of all Catholic peoples in that definition of faith which pronounces that which every successive age of Christianity has held to be an article of faith, viz., that Mary never was even for an instant the enemy of God, the ally of the devil or the heiress of eternal damnation. "Who," says St. Cyril, "hath ever heard of an architect building for himself a house, and yielding the occupancy and possession of it to his prime enemy?" In the same spirit Catholics just believe and hold it to be inconsistent in the Omnipotent God, the Supreme Architect, to build for himself a house, Mary, and permit His chief, His mortal foe, Sin and the Devil to take first possession of it and subject it to pollution. Greater must be in the divine economy the privilege of Mary than even that of John the Baptist, who was filled with the Holy Ghost from his mother's womb; or than that of Jeremiah who was sanctified before he came forth out of the womb. Her special privilege is that at the very moment of her conception, when her soul was infused into her body, there was present a special, preventing grace, participating as it were in the act of her creation, exempting her from the slightest stain of original sin, so that sin had not dominion over her even for the slightest interval of time.

In the Councils of the Eternal Mary was predestined to be the second Eve, through whom immortal life should be once more proffered to mankind. The first Eve came forth from the creative hands of God with a sinless soul. Now, it being impossible that the Son of God should unite His God-head to sinful flesh, and it being necessary that He should become man to redeem the world, could He do otherwise than create the second Eve sinless even as He had created the first. His, therefore, being the power, and His exercise comporting with His infinite purity and dignity, where, we ask, is the difficulty in admitting that He has made the second Eve equal to the first, and that by applying, through anticipation, as the Church teaches, to the most Holy Virgin the merits of the passion and death of her blessed Son, He has exempted her from the necessity of being even for an instant the slave of sin.

From the most remote periods of christian antiquity this doctrine has been held in the Church. The Liturgy of St. James the Apostle speaks of the Blessed Virgin as "most holy, most glorious,

Immaculate Mother of God and ever Virgin." The Liturgy of St. Mark also applies to the Blessed Virgin Mary the expression, "Most holy, Immaculate, and blessed Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary." The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom pronounces her *ca omni parte immaculata*, and the Alexandrine Liturgy of St. Basil speaks of her as "our most holy, most glorious, Immaculate, most blessed Lady, Mother of God and ever Virgin Mary."

In his remarkable discourse before the proconsul Egeus, previous to his suffering, the holy apostle St. Andrew says, "And moreover, as the first man was created from Immaculate earth, it was necessary that from an Immaculate Virgin should be born a perfect man, namely, the Son of God." In the same sense St. Amphilocheus afterwards said, "who created the first virgin (Eve) perfect; He himself created the second (Mary) without blemish and without sin."

The belief of the blessed Apostle and of St. Amphilocheus found universal echo in the Church, not only in their day, but in all subsequent ages, till at length, the Supreme Pontiff, Pius IX., of happy memory, solemnly decreed and defined it as of faith. On that solemn occasion, surrounded by the court of Cardinals, and by bishops of every rite and nation in the world, he uttered a sublime prayer in which Catholics should ever join with one heart and soul. He implored "the most Holy Mother of God to effect by her most powerful patronage that all difficulties being removed, and all errors dissipated, Our Holy Mother the Catholic Church may flourish daily more and more throughout all nations and countries, and may reign from the rivers to the ends of the earth, and may enjoy all peace, tranquility, and liberty; that the sinful may obtain pardon, the sick healing, the weak of heart strength, the afflicted consolation, and that all who are in error, their spiritual blindness being dissipated, may return to the paths of truth and justice, and may become one flock and one shepherd." Praise, honor and glory to the mother of God and blessed forever be her Immaculate Conception!

THAT DEFICIT.

It has been from time to time for several months past privately and publicly stated that the city of London has been, by neglect, incompetency and criminality robbed of the large sum of \$100,000. The public accounts of the city have every year, we believe, been laid before the council, but though there must have been each year, for many years, according to the statements made in connection with the disappearance of the \$100,000, a very large deficit in these accounts, our civic authorities either did not, or would not see it, and everything was reported as lovely and serene. There was no disposition of enquiry evinced on the part of our ward politicians. One secured the erection of a lamp under some umbrageous maple in front of his residence, another rejoiced in the construction of a sidewalk extending several blocks on either side of his happy domicile, and another, for patriotic services, was rewarded by fat contracts. Thus for substantial reasons was this usually demonstrative class kept silent. The municipal machinery meanwhile moved on silently, but was all the while wasting its strength to the tune of \$100,000.

Now, for the disappearance of this \$100,000 some one, or more than one is to blame. In connection with this matter we desire, in the interest of the city and our fellow-citizens of all classes, to ask if any, and, if so, what steps have been taken to make rigid enquiry into this \$100,000 defalcation? The credit and reputation of the city of London demands that this matter be thoroughly sifted, and the blame for this monstrous outrage on right and justice attached to the proper party. No personal or other considerations should prevent the discharge of this plain duty. If there be no enquiry into the matter it will have to be conceded that London values not honesty or fidelity in its public officials, and can afford to be magnanimous even at the expense of justice.

POSTAL REFORM.

In the American Post Master General's report just submitted to congress there is a recommendation that the telegraph and postal services be united under one management. It is to be hoped that the recommendation will be acted on, and the people thus protected against the exactions of monopoly. We also trust that the inauguration of so beneficial a reform among our republican neighbors will be followed by similar action in Canada. Our people are now suffering from the exactions of a telegraph monopoly, and it is, we think, the duty of the government to intervene as well for the protection as for the promotion of public interests. The whole telegraph system of Canada is now in the hands of one management, and that really American. There is not, and cannot be, as long as this state of affairs continues, any competition in telegraph rates, which are now entirely too high. In Great Britain, where the postal and telegraphic services have been for many years united, their amalgamation have given satisfac-

tion. That it would do so here there cannot be the least doubt.

We also notice in the President's message a recommendation in favour of the reduction of the postal rate from three to two cents. This is a recommendation which will also, we trust, be acted on, and be followed by a like reduction in Canada. In fact, the time has, in our estimation, come for the inauguration of a uniform one cent rate both in Canada and the United States. If a reduction be now made to two cents, a further reduction cannot be long postponed.

A FEDERAL DISTRICT.

There is a movement on foot in the Dominion Capital in favor of the establishment of a Federal District, somewhat after the fashion of the District of Columbia in the neighboring republic. The people of Ottawa have for many years suffered from the burdens of an excessive taxation, necessitated, it must on all hands be admitted, at least in a great measure by its honest endeavor to meet the requirements of its position as Capital of the Dominion. It is, we are aware, customary amongst those who either know nothing of Ottawa as it was before the removal of the seat of government to that city, or who are unmindful of the enterprise and self-sacrifice evidenced by its citizens from the beginning of its civic existence, to state that the Dominion metropolis owes whatever of solid grandeur it has had and whatever attractiveness it possesses to its being the seat of government. Ottawa is indeed under very deep obligations to the Dominion government and to the Parliament of Canada. But if a comparison be made between the growth of Ottawa for the ten years previous to its becoming the seat of government and the first ten years of its enjoyment of that luxury, it will be found that the Dominion Capital made more real and solid progress in the first of these periods than in any subsequent period of its existence.

Between 1851 and 1861 Ottawa doubled its population, while its increase in the ten following years was, under peculiarly favorable circumstances of trade and the accession to its permanent population of the many families brought thither by the government, hardly 50 per cent in all. To the immense outlay caused within the last ten or twelve years by improvements rendered necessary by the rapid growth of the city and the commercial and sanitary wants of its people, the Dominion government made no direct contribution. Upon that portion of the citizens, therefore, who have no salaried connection with or dependence on the Dominion government the great burden of the heavy, if not exorbitant taxation almost entirely fell. The construction of waterworks, of sewers, the opening and grading of new streets, the establishment of a fire system second to none on the continent, the building of new bridges on a scale at once costly and magnificent, all these are improvements which have seriously burdened tax-payers in the Dominion Capital, and driven hundreds of people who would otherwise have settled within its limits to swell the population of its once attenuated but now abnormally swollen suburbs. It is all very well to say that the improvements that have been made would in any case have had to be undertaken for the promotion of the city's real interests. This is quite true, but if the citizens of Ottawa had not been governed by motives purely unselfish and patriotic, and animated by a desire to make their city, without delay, in some manner equal to its position as Capital of the Dominion, these improvements would have been pursued with more caution and regard to the resources and prospects of the city, and, as a natural consequence, many thousands of people now in the suburbs would be inhabitants of the city itself. It is, we presume, in view of the very restricted growth of the city and its difficulty without imposing a very high rate of taxation to meet its financial obligations that is due the present movement for the erection of a Federal district to include Ottawa within its limits. The movement is one of importance not alone to Ottawa but to the Dominion at large. In the District of Columbia the executive power is vested in a governor and secretary appointed by the president

with the approval of the senate, for four years, but the comptroller, collector or auditor, treasurer, attorney, registrar, superintendent of assessment and taxes, water registrar and surveyor are appointed by local authority and the legislative power is vested in an assembly consisting of a council of 11 members appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate, for a term of two years, and a house of delegates of 22 members, elected annually by the people. The territory is divided into districts for the appointment and election of councilmen and delegates. All male citizens 21 years of age, except convicts and those of unsound mind, who have resided one year in the district and thirty days in the precinct where they offer to vote, have the right of suffrage. The assembly has the power to divide the territory into not more than three townships, and is required to maintain a scheme of free public schools. The courts are under the immediate jurisdiction of the United States. All officers appointed by the Government are paid from its treasury, and all others from the local treasury. Congress has exclusive control of the district. None residing in the district are allowed to vote at presidential elections.

It will be seen at a glance that if in any scheme devised for the erection of a Federal district out of the city of Ottawa and adjacent territory, provisions in any respect similar to these be inserted, a very radical change would be involved, and one to which exception might for many reasons be taken.

If the erection of a Federal district be decided on it should include not only Ottawa city, but the townships of Nepean and Gloucester, in Ontario, and the township of Hull in the Province of Quebec. According to the last census the city of Ottawa contained 27,412 inhabitants, the township of Nepean 8,044, the township of Gloucester, including the village of New Edinburgh, 7,229, and the township of Hull, including the city of Hull and village of Alymer, 12,814, making a total of 55,499. There are now, we believe, within the territory we speak of no fewer than nine different municipal organizations which might all profitably be merged into one, but that one, whatever its constitution, should be freely elected by the people of the proposed district, and all its officers appointed directly by its authority. The constitution and jurisdiction of the courts of law and legislation in respect of education, are matters that would justly fall within the sphere of Dominion Parliamentary action. The powers of the Provincial Legislatures of Quebec and Ontario over the local concerns of the territory in question would also, of course, be transferred to the Federal Parliament. We can see no good reason why the proposed district should not have due representation in that body. Any privileges are too dear that must be purchased by disfranchisement, and we much mistake the people of Ottawa if they consent to any proposal involving such a sacrifice of right. The progress of the agitation in favor of the erection of the district will be followed with general interest throughout the Dominion. If it meets with success it will, we hope, by its results fully justify the best expectations of the citizens of Ottawa, by promoting the growth and ensuring the continued prosperity of their city and its dependencies.

SLAVERY IN BRAZIL.

In the autumn of 1871 a measure providing for the gradual emancipation of slaves throughout the Brazilian empire became law. Since that time more than 11,000 slaves have been liberated, at a cost to the government of a sum exceeding \$3,000,000. During that same period also more than 60,000 slaves have been liberated, either by the spontaneous action of their masters, or by the efforts, and at the expense of private individuals and associations. The Emperor Dom Pedro II., one of the most generous and noble-hearted of sovereigns, as well as all the leading men of the empire, without distinction of party, are in full accord with an accord truly admirable for the emancipation of slaves in Brazil.

There are in Brazil, as everywhere else, radicals who can see no good in any measure of reform unless it introduces some sudden and violent change. The Brazil-

ian radical would have the slaves immediately set free throughout the empire. He would give no compensation to their holders nor make any provisions against the industrial and financial crisis certain to follow such a mode of action. In a country where slavery has so long existed as it has in Brazil, it is quite evident that the whole system of natural and industrial productiveness is closely bound up with slave holding. A sudden disruption of the bonds uniting slave labor with the productive power of the country would necessarily bring about an industrial crisis that might endanger the very existence of the national institutions.

The results of a sudden emancipation of slaves in the neighboring republic are too well known to have it required of us to dwell at any length on this point. The state of the South for years after the war was simply appalling. To this day the effects of the sudden emancipation of four millions of men, unprepared and consequently unfit for freedom, are felt, and will no doubt be felt, for many a long day yet. A carefully devised system of gradual emancipation would have obviated all the evils and difficulties entailed on the South by the immediate liberation of the negroes. The Brazilian system of emancipation is one of practical wisdom, and will, besides accomplishing the liberation of the slaves, make them good and useful citizens.

A CRUEL MONOPOLY.

We learn from the Free Press that on Saturday last one hundred and fifty men employed in the car shops of the Grand Trunk Railway in London East were discharged. Our contemporary assures us that such an action does not imply that such a large number of persons is to be thrown out of employment or permanently dismissed, the present step being, we are told, preliminary to the transfer of the men and their families to other places. "As soon," says the Free Press, "as the necessary arrangements can be completed, probably within two weeks, the majority of the men will be transferred to the workshops of the Company at Brantford, Hamilton and Windsor." This prediction of our city contemporary will, we trust, prove correct, but the action of the Company in thus dealing with the men is none the less reprehensible and calls for the very severest censure. Many of the discharged employees have purchased homes in this city or the adjoining municipality of London East. These they must now sell at a sacrifice or abandon, after having paid on them, through hard and honest labor, a large portion of the purchase money. Then, we may ask why compel these poor men and their families to incur the expense and suffer the inconvenience of removal at a most inclement season, if the Company has work for them? Why compel them to bear with the serious loss entailed by two weeks or more of enforced idleness? The Free Press gives us the answer to these questions. The Grand Trunk Company desire to punish the city of London through the honest and faithful mechanics by whose ill-requited labor it has so largely profited. Our contemporary states that the Grand Trunk officials, at the time of the passing of the resolution granting to the London Junction all the privileges asked for by that corporation, "intimated that if the Council granted freely to the London Junction such important concessions in the matter of right of way along the streets, free water and exemption from taxation, which have all along been denied the Grand Trunk, the city must be prepared for the consequences, and that the result would probably prove detrimental to the welfare of the city."

Our contemporary further adds that "Mr. McIlwain, Superintendent of the Car Works, when questioned by a Free Press reporter, stated that the men had not been discharged through any lack of work, as the work to be done upon the rolling stock of the line would be more than sufficient to afford employment to a considerably larger staff of workmen. He admitted that there was no use of making any bones about the matter—the cause of the present action was directly attributable to the course of the Council in regard to the London Junction. And this is only the inception of retributive action."

It were impossible for its worst enemy to place the Grand Trunk in a more unfavorable light before the

public. It stands, according to the statements in the Free Press, convicted of cruelty, tyranny and injustice utterly without palliation. If the Grand Trunk can only fight its battles with the city of London and the London Junction Railway Company by robbing the mechanic of his hire, by snatching the bread from his children, and by the breaking up of his happy little home, then we say that the Grand Trunk deserves not only the reprobation but the active opposition of every honest and humane citizen. Monopolists may go to certain lengths in the way of tyranny, but there are limits to all things, even to monopolist injustice, as the Grand Trunk may, sooner than it expects, discover.

A MISSIONARY MEETING.

At a missionary meeting held on Monday evening, in the Queen's Avenue Methodist Church, there was, we learn, a large attendance, and the speeches were received with marked attention. The annual financial report was read by Mr. R. J. C. Dawson, and proved satisfactory at least to the most interested portion of the assembly. After the Rev. Mr. Griffin had said, the Rev. Dr. Sutherland, Missionary Secretary, and evidently a sort of itinerant Boanerges, took the stand. He began by a swift and sudden trap-door flight into futurity. When he grasped, he said, the magnitude of the missionary work, he thought he would like to live a hundred years, to see just how the thing would come out. Well, as far as we are concerned, we say, let him live. But we do think that if he were to live that long and saw just how the thing did come out one of the sorriest, the sickest, and most boycotted of men on the face of this sublimity world would be the Rev. Dr. Sutherland, Missionary Secretary.

After satisfying himself at least, by a statistical account of the expenditure for the year, he went on to describe the work of Methodist missionaries in the Province of Quebec. Not having much in the way of work to describe, he endeavored to show the difficulties of "missionaries" making progress among a people whom he characterized as the most aggressive Roman Catholics in the world. Mr. Sutherland here unwittingly paid the very highest compliment he could to the Catholics of Quebec. They are indeed aggressive, not in the sense of offensive intermeddling with the convictions of others, but in the sense of being in earnest for the legitimate furtherance of their faith and its protection against the assaults of sectarian arrogance. The Catholics of Quebec are aggressive because they are well grounded in their own belief, and can give reason for the faith that is in them. Can Dr. Sutherland or the "missionaries" do as much? But Mr. Sutherland seeks to convey the impression that "converts" to Methodism are subjected to persecution in Lower Canada, and have sometimes on that account to leave the country. We deny that there is any such persecution in the Province of Quebec, and can safely state that if any of the "converts" have had to leave the Province it is for some other cause besides "conversion" to Methodism. In his preparation for future discourses we would commend to Mr. Sutherland's attention the boycottings, the church burnings, and even murders that not so very many years ago distinguished the aggressiveness of the Protestant majority in Upper Canada, to the Catholic minority.

When Mr. Sutherland finds a parallel in Quebec for these outrages, then let him freely denounce that Province and its people.

PERSONAL.

His Lordship Bishop Jamot has, we learn, named the Rev. Father Lynch of Peterboro to the pastoral charge of Lindsay. This is an appointment which will give heartfelt satisfaction to the Catholics of Lindsay and to Father Lynch's many friends throughout the Province.

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION IN LONDON.

The feast of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated in London with becoming solemnity. At 10:30 a. m., Rt. Rev. Mgr. Bruyere sang High Mass in St. Peter's Cathedral in the presence of a large congregation. In the evening at 7:30 Rev. Father Walsh officiated at Vespers.

FORTY HOURS AT MOUNT HOPE.

The Forty Hours devotion began at Mount Hope on Thursday morning with the High Mass of exposition. The Blessed Sacrament remained exposed for adoration till Thursday morning when another High Mass was celebrated and the devotions terminated.

The Holy Father, Leo XIII., sets a noble example to the clergy of Italy and of the world, in the praiseworthy interest he takes in encouraging and supporting the Catholic press. Almost all of the Catholic papers of Italy, it is said, receive pecuniary help from the Vatican. The *Monteur de Rome* is the official organ of his Holiness.

OUR NORTH WEST.

Before leaving the Canadian North West it is well to mention one advantage it offers to Catholic emigrants not to be found in the adjacent states of the American union and that is freedom of education. Catholics in Manitoba and the Canadian North West have the full control over, and freedom in respect of the schools they may themselves establish. As far as Manitoba is concerned, the government of its school system is placed in the hands of a general Board divided into two sections, each independent of the other, the one Catholic and the other Protestant. Everything connected with the control, rule and discipline of the schools belongs to the board; to it also pertains the examination of candidates for teaching, the graduating of them and the granting of diplomas; the choosing of text books, and the managing of the instruction subject to the authority of each of the sections. The Catholic section of the general board consists of His Grace Archbishop Tache, three priests and four laymen. By the British North America Act of 1867 of the Imperial Parliament and the Manitoba Act of 1870 of the Parliament of Canada, the Catholics of Manitoba are forever guaranteed the rights of establishing and maintaining schools of their own and receiving for the support thereof their due share of the public funds appropriated for educational purposes. Mgr. Tache sets forth in the clearest terms the essential principle of the Manitoba school laws when he says "The Catholics having nothing to do with the Protestant schools have no action in them and consequently they can in no way impede their success, welfare and prosperity. The law in granting such independence to the Protestant schools and in protecting them against the intrusion of Catholics, even were the latter more numerous, secures similar independence to Catholic schools against the interference of Protestants, notwithstanding that the latter are the majority in the Province. Such is the fundamental principle of the School law of Manitoba."

Provincial systems have not yet been established in the North West outside of Manitoba but where they are established the rights of Catholics will be secure under the following provision of the North West Territories Act of 1875. "When, and so soon as any system of taxation shall be adopted in any district or portion of the North West Territories, the Lieutenant-Governor, nor, by and with the consent of the Council or Assembly, as the case may be, shall pass all necessary ordinances in respect to education; it shall therein be always provided that a majority of the ratepayers of any district or portion of the North West Territories, or any lesser portion or sub-division thereof, whatever name the same may be known, may establish such schools therein as they may think fit, to make the necessary assessment and collection of rates therefor; and further, that the minority of the ratepayers therein, whether Protestant or Roman Catholic, may establish separate schools therein, and in such latter case, the ratepayers of Roman Catholic separate schools shall be liable only to assessments such rates as they may impose upon themselves in respect thereof."

Thus it will be seen that Catholics in the Canadian North West have the fullest freedom of conscience for without educational freedom there can be no freedom of conscience to them and to their posterity, a boon truly inestimable.

But while mindful, and justly proud of our North West, and its expectations, we should not fail to take a lively interest in the American North West particularly the States of Minnesota and the territory of Dakota, both of which have given homes to thousands and tens of thousands of Canadians. The territory of Dakota which some few years ago could scarcely be said to have had political existence, has of late rapidly increased in population and it will soon be admitted as a state. The number of Canadians settled throughout Dakota is very large. But in the neighborhood of Grand Forks there are so numerous an apparently out-number all other Catholics. Many of them are Catholics hailing from the counties along Ottawa. Few, if any of them, so regret their removal to the North West. The total Catholic population of Dakota cannot fall far short of 25,000. The Vicar Apostolic, Rev. M. Marty, Bishop of Tiberias, i. p. i., a devoted and saintly prelate resides at Yankton. His Vicar General is Very Rev. J. L. Will. There are in the Vicariate, 5 reg-