

The Catholic Weekly Review.

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

Reddite quæ sunt Cæsaris, Cæsari; et quæ sunt Dei, Deo.—Matt 22: 21.

Vol. V

Toronto, Saturday, March 7, 1891.

No. 4

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"Unfortunately there are many who are willing to overlook the great good a paper may be doing, but who are quick to point out some slight error which can easily be remedied. . . . The man who enters the Catholic editorial chair and is afraid to risk an occasional blunder, has mistaken his calling and is of but little use in the battle of truth."—CARDINAL GIBBONS.

Notes.

PRIOR GLYNN, who is engaged in the work of erecting an Irish National Church in Rome, dedicated to St. Patrick, had an audience, recently, with the Holy Father in the latter's private study. During the conversation the Irish political situation was touched upon, and the Pope remarked:—"God will bring the faithful Irish people safely out of trouble. I have the greatest hope in the future of Ireland."

Pope Leo XIII spoke feelingly of the Irish race. He dwelt upon the generosity of the Irish despite the many burdens they have to bear. The progress of the Church and College of the Irish Augustinians pleased him, and, after referring to the fact that St. Patrick received episcopal consecration in Rome and was sent to Ireland by Pope Celestine, he touched upon the strength of the ties existing between the Emerald Isle and the Holy See, adding:—"Thank God, we have lived to see Ireland and St. Patrick honoured by the erecting of a national church in this city."

It may surprise Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Hartington and the other notable persons who are just now doing much to awaken religious animosity in Ireland, to know that the words following were spoken in the English House of Lords in November, 1865, and that the speaker was no less a person than the present Lord Salisbury:

"What is the reason that a people with so bountiful a soil, with such enormous resources (as Ireland) lag so far behind the English in the race? Some say that it is to be found in the character of the Celtic race; but I look to France, and I see a Celtic race there going forward in the path of prosperity with most rapid strides—I believe at the present moment more rapidly than England herself. Some people say that it is to be found in the Roman Catholic religion; but I look to Belgium, and there I see a people second to none in Europe, except the English, for industry, singularly prosperous, considering the small space of country that they occupy, having improved to the utmost the natural resources of that country, but distinguished among all the peoples of Europe for the earnestness and intensity of their Roman Catholic belief. Therefore, I cannot say that

the cause of the Irish distress is to be found in the Roman Catholic religion. An honest friend near me says that it arises from the Irish people listening to demagogues. I have as much dislike to demagogues as he has, but when I look to the Northern States of America, I see there people who listen to demagogues, but who undoubtedly have not been wanting in material prosperity. It cannot be demagogues, Roman Catholicism or the Celtic race. What, then, is it? I am afraid that the one thing which has been peculiar to Ireland has been the Government of England."

THE Irish Bishops in their Lenten Pastorals do not, in their solicitude for the spiritual needs of their flocks, forget their corporal wants, which, in the midst of the acute distress that prevails, are many and pressing. Their Lordships draw a harrowing picture of the condition of several parts of the country, and make pathetic appeals for relief, which, notwithstanding the large fund being raised, is still far from being meted out in adequate measure. The Bishop of Raphoe complains of the delay in providing employment, and says: "What the people want is work. What they ask is employment that will bring them wages, and permanently develop the resources of the country." In a recent letter to the *Manchester Guardian*, the Bishop of Salford urgently invited the people of Manchester to contribute on behalf of the poor in the diocese of Achoury—the most populous and the poorest district in Ireland. When distress is so acute, every well-to-do person should endeavour to have some share in the merciful work of saving the destitute from famine and starvation.

OPINION appears to be divided in regard to the expediency of the projected visit to America of delegates from each section of the divided Irish party. The *Pilot*, of Boston, a paper which for more than a quarter of a century has done yeoman's service in behalf of the cause of Irish nationality, believes that the warring factions will make a serious mistake if either or both send delegations to America at present to canvas for funds. The charitably disposed people of this country are ready and willing, it truly says, to contribute generously for the relief of the distressed, and they are doing so already through the relief funds opened by several friendly newspapers and other agencies, the proceeds of which are transmitted to the bishops of the afflicted districts. The collection of money for the destitute is in this way being provided for. "If," says the *Pilot*, "the contemplated delegations expect to gather contributions for political purposes, they will be sadly disappointed. The friends of Ireland in America will not furnish the sinews of civil war and thus help to keep alive the feuds which are to-day the chief obstacle in the path of Home Rule."

THE *Irish World*, on the other hand, takes the view that the representatives of the majority party should be accorded such a reception in America as will show that American sentiment and sympathy are with the cause and the party they represent. "The party," it says, "is the legitimate Irish party, consisting, not of new recruits or of untried men, but of those who have stood by their pledges, and who have borne the heat of the day and the sweats. They are not the promoters of disunion, or the organizers of disturbance and riot for the gratification of personal vanity or ambition, but they are men labouring with the help of all good and patriotic Irishmen to uphold the honour and interests of Ireland by maintaining the unity and strength of the National movement." Coming to America as the representatives of Mr. McCarthy and the bulk of the Irish party, they should receive, it thinks, a warm welcome, and a prompt and practical response to their appeal.