

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.

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EVENTS OF THE WEEK.

The debate in the English House of Commons is being continued on the Land Bill, the provisions for the eviction of tenants being fought clause by clause.

Mgr. Persico, the special representative of the Vatican in Ireland, has sent to the Pope a report of his investigations in that country. He will return to Rome at the beginning of August.

On Monday the Marquis of Londonderry, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, proclaimed under the Crimes Act all counties except Antrim. Prior to this a meeting of the Privy Council and a conference of resident magistrates were held, at which it was decided to enforce the new law with firmness.

Mgr. Lorrain, Vicar Apostolic of Pontiac, has returned to Montreal after a remarkable voyage to the Indian missions on the Upper Ottawa, Rupert's Land and Upper St. Maurice. His voyage involved a trip of seventeen hundred miles, made mostly by water in bark canoes, and occupied over two months. During his journey the bishop performed thirty-five infant baptisms, five adult baptisms, sixteen marriages, 572 communions and 458 confirmations. The missions covered by Mgr. Lorrain were established in the seventeenth century by Jesuit missionaries, and have for many years been under the charge of the Oblat fathers. Mgr. Lorrain is the first bishop who has visited them.

It is announced that the Pope proposes to divide the old ecclesiastical Province of Quebec, and to erect three provinces instead, with the metropolitan seats at Quebec, Montreal and Ottawa. The suffragan sees to be attached to the new Province of Quebec will be the bishoprics of Three Rivers, Rimouski, Chicoutini and Nicolet. The Apostolic Vicariate of the Gulf of St. Lawrence will also be attached

to Quebec. The archbishopric of Montreal will have as suffragans the Bishops of St. Hyacinthe and Sherbrooke. For the present the new Metropolitan of Ottawa will have only the Apostolic Vicar of Pontiac as a suffragan; but it is intended to create new sees both there and in the archdiocese of Montreal.

Under the advice of Mr. Gladstone the Parnellites have abandoned their intention to move an adjournment for the purpose of challenging the Government with reference to the Irish proclamations. The Opposition does not want to interfere with the progress of the Land bill if the Government continue to shape the clauses in consonance with Home Rule aims. The action of the Irish Executive will be made the subject of a motion of censure by Mr. Morley after the Land bill has been settled, and the debate on this censure motion will be the concluding excitement of the session. The Government propose to abandon the bill providing for the trial of grave offences by a commission of judges. The session will thus be somewhat shortened, and it is now expected to close on August 20.

The *Moniteur* publishes the text of a letter addressed by the Pope to Cardinal Rampolla on June 15, when the latter assumed the functions of Pontifical Secretary of State. In this letter the Pope explains fully the principle which he has followed in the government of the Church. He declares that he took upon himself the mission to reconcile the peoples and the Governments of civilized States. Referring first to Italy, the Pope develops the ideas expounded in the consistory allocution of May 23rd, when he laid down, as a basis of pacification, Italy's acknowledgement of the independence of the Holy See. He reiterates his claims to territorial sovereignty as an indispensable condition of settlement. All other schemes, he says, are unworthy of consideration. Italy herself says the Pope would reap most splendid benefits at home and abroad from a settlement recognizing the Pope's temporal power. Adverting next to Austria, the Pope says that the piety of the Emperor and the devotion of the Imperial family to the Holy See have rendered their mutual relations the best possible, and the wise statesmen enjoying the confidence of the Emperor have promoted religion in Austria and Hungary and establishment of perfect concord. France, the elder daughter of the Church, was menaced by serious evils. The Pope trusted these evils would be dispelled through the observance of the letter and the spirit of the acts solemnly concluded with the Church. Turning to Spain, the Pope says the first need is a union of Catholics in defence of their religion, in devotion to the Holy See, and in reciprocal charity, so that Spain may not be misguided by personal aims. Regarding Prussia, the Pontiff says it is necessary to continue the work of religious peace-making to its full achievement. Great things have been done. The well-disposed mind of the Emperor and the good intentions of his Ministers permit his Holiness to cherish the hope that his effort to ameliorate the condition of the Church will not prove barren. The solicitude felt by the Vatican for Prussia extends equally to the other States of Germany, and these States are now happily seeking the friendliest relations with the Vatican. The Pope concludes with reference to the fostering missions leading back to the Church her separated people.