

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. II.

Toronto, Saturday, Aug 18, 1888

No. 27.

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NOTES.

The German Protestant papers are expressing their astonishment that another distinguished German officer has changed the epaulet for the cassock and retired from the barracks to a convent, Major Ernst von Oer, hitherto tutor to the son of Prince George, the heir presumptive to the throne of Saxony. One of them declares that the man must be a maniac to throw away a promising military career for seclusion in a cell. To this the *Germania* replies, "There ought to be nothing surprising in a military officer giving himself up to the service of the Lord of Hosts and becoming a soldier of Christ. In the Catholic Church we have numerous bishops, priests and members of religious orders who laid down the sword and took up the cross so as to become prominent champions of Christ."

As regards Major von Oer, it is related of him that while yet a captain he on Jan. 19, 1871, took the command of the entire Saxon detachment in the battle of St. Quentin, after all his superiors in command had been put *hors de combat*. The journal from which we cull the foregoing details adds that he was the beau-ideal of an officer and a gentleman, and was almost worshipped by the soldiers. It is believed that the Prince, who has had a man of this stamp for his tutor, is not likely at any time to forsake the Catholic faith, though ruling over a country almost exclusively Protestant.

The death of General Philip H. Sheridan, Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army, removes from the public life of the nation one of its greatest soldiers and strategists, and from the ranks of American Catholic laymen that one who held the highest rank in the service of his country next to the Presidency. It is consoling to know that he died a devout Christian, fortified with the sacraments of the Church. He was a gallant soldier and an upright Catholic. "He was a believer," says the *Standard of Philadelphia*, "in the Catholic faith, and, at least during the latter years of his life, he was a practical Catholic, attending regularly to his duties as a member of the Church. In this he was a marked exception to the many instances

in which men who rise rapidly to positions of high secular honour and distinction forget and neglect their religious obligations, and, while gaining the applause of the world, lose their souls."

May he rest in peace.

The biennial convention of the C.M.B.A., which is held this year in Toronto, is still in session as the REVIEW of this week goes to issue. A report of the proceedings of the Convention will appear later. Before proceeding to the business of the Convention on Tuesday, the delegates marched to St. Michael's Cathedral, where they assisted at a solemn high mass. Very Rev. F. P. Rooney acted as celebrant, Rev. Father Molphy, of Ingersoll as deacon, Rev. Father Brady of Woodstock as sub-deacon, and Rev. Father Hand as master of ceremonies. The sermon was preached by Rev. Father Tiernan of London. On the conclusion of the services, the delegates formed in files of two, and marched to the Union Hall, and at once entered into executive session.

Mr. D. J. O'Connor of Stratford, president of the Grand Council, presided. Among those present were Rev. Fathers Crinnon of Brantford, Bayard of Sarma, Master-son, Prescott, Sullivan, Thorold, Bardon, Cayuga; Beland, Ottawa, Murray, Cornwall, McLintee, Oshawa, Messrs. R. J. Latchford, Ottawa and T. P. Tansey, Montreal.

Having stated that a Catholic priest sits among the peers (Lord Petre), and that another priest is heir presumptive to a peerage, a writer in the current number of the *Dublin Review* tells us that "In one year a Catholic (Mr. Townly) won the Derby, a Catholic stood at the head of the yachting interest (Mr. Weld, of Lulworth, whose father's guest George III. had once been); and a Catholic (Lord Denbigh) was unsurpassed at Wimbledon. We have had a Catholic Viceroy of India, and Catholic Governors in Malta, New Zealand and Mauritius, while the Turkish Ambassador of her Majesty to Rustem Pacha, is a Catholic, as is also her Majesty's Minister at Constantinople, Sir William White. Catholic names in position and of position meet us daily and at every turn. In science. Father Perry, S.J., Admiral Sabine and Mr. Proctor, in law: Judges Shea (R.I.P.), Day and Mathew, with Mr. Aspinall, Q. C. (late Recorder of Liverpool), Sir Charles Russell, M.P., and H. R. Bagshaw, Esq., Q.C. Lord Bury has been a member of the Ministry and is a Privy Councillor; Mr. Matthews is a member of the Ministry and is a Privy Councillor; Sir John Lambert is a Privy Councillor, and was publicly thanked by Mr. Gladstone in the House for the aid he had afforded the Liberal party as a statistician, and was subsequently chairman of the Boundary Commission. Sir Arthur Herbert, K.C.B., General Dorman, Col. Butler, and others, represent us in the Army; and in literature as well as in Parliament we have had Mr. Frederick Lucas (brother-in-law of John Bright), and for years editor of *The Tablet*; Miss Braddon, Adelaide Proctor, Father Bridgett, W. Maziere Brady, Lady Herbert of Lea, Lady Fullerton, Lord Arundel of Wardour, Mr. St. George Mivart, Mr. Burnard, and many others."