

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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CONTENTS.

NOTES.....	117
THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JOHN LONGWORTHY.....M. F. Egan	118
AT EASTERTIDE.....John Talon-Lesperance	120
CARDINAL GIBBONS ON THE PRIESTLY OFFICE.....	120
BISHOP SPALDING ON INGERSOLL.....	122
VINDICATION OF FATHER DAMIEN.....	127
EDITORIAL—	
THE REVIEW and <i>La Verite</i>	124
The Christian Constitution of States.....	125
The Church and the Modern State.....	125
Education: Religious and Secular.....	125
The Catholic Position.....	126
The Extension of the State Theory.....	126
General Catholic News.....	121
POETRY—	
Easter Eve.....M. J. M.	121
The Traveller's Psalm.....Douglas Sladen.	123

hard-headed men with an argument against the continuance of these expensive and not very useful legislatures, whose proper functions could all be discharged by a slight extension of the system of County Councils.

Mr. GLADSTONE has again, in a letter to a Glasgow clergyman, accentuated his late testimony to the allegiance of Catholics to the civil government, and again asserted that the reason for his "Vatican" pamphlets of 1874 has passed away, and that the responses to them on the part of Catholics were thoroughly satisfactory.

THE Holy Father has sent his Apostolic Benediction to all "who in any way whatever contribute to the organizing and carrying into effect the centenary celebration of the birth of Father Mathew." It is expected that the event will give an impetus to the temperance movement everywhere.

MESSAGES of congratulation were sent to the Holy Father from all parts of the world on the anniversary of his coronation. There were thousands of them, and the well-wishers included infidels and non Catholics of every form of religious belief. As usual on such occasions, His Holiness made a princely offering in behalf of the poor of Rome.

It seems that the opponents of parochial schools in Boston have adopted a new policy in reference to Catholics. They are no longer to be attacked as enemies to the public schools, but are to be approached as friends, in a spirit of conciliation; Catholic teachers are not to be excluded from the public schools; the schools themselves are to be made more and more attractive; and the Catholic laity are to be persuaded that it will be a great deal more advantageous, in a worldly point of view, for their children to be educated in the public schools than in their own Catholic parish school. The misfortune is, says the *Ave Maria*, that great encouragement is taken by our Protestant friends in adopting this new policy, from the fact that there are a number of lukewarm Catholics who do not realize the importance of a thorough Christian training for their children, and still continue to send them to the public schools, in spite of the laws of their religion and the fact that by so doing they are playing into the hands of the enemies of the Church. Those enemies should not take too much encouragement from these recalcitrant members, since the law of the Church can not be changed to suit them.

Notes.

THE REVIEW has not been at any pains to burden its readers with an account of the debate upon the Separate Schools, arising out of the meddlesome amendments to the existing law, introduced by Mr. Meredith and others in the Local Legislature last week. There is no need to magnify Mr. Meredith's importance. The Separate School law is an Imperial and an inviolable instrument, and it is beyond the reach of interference from the leader of the Local Opposition. Equally safe is it from interference at the hands of the Federal authorities, if, indeed, there were any reason to expect it; while as to petitioning the Imperial Parliament to abrogate it, it is doubtful if, as the Attorney-General pointed out, a half-dozen members of that body could be got to listen to a proposal to remove the minority guarantees which formed at the time of the Union of the Provinces, the cope stone of Confederation. The competency of the Local Legislature to deal with the guarantees contained in the British North America Act, is about the same as would be that of the Mayor and City Council of Toronto. And if, with regard to the Local Legislature it is to be turned session after session by Mr. Meredith and his dangerous faction into a place for the projecting of attacks upon the rights of conscience, secured to, and held to be essential by, a considerable portion of the people of the Province, rather than for the transaction of legitimate provincial business, then the sooner the Province has done with the anomaly of a Local Legislature the better. We are a too much governed country anyway, and a session or two more of Mr. Meredith, with his proposals against the Separate Schools and his attacks upon "the hierarchy," will furnish