

The Catholic Weekly Review.

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

Reddite que sunt Casaris, Casari; et que sunt Dei, Deo.—Matt 22: 21.

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Notes.

The Hon Mr. Chapleau in the fine speech in which he replied to the congratulations of his friends on his return a few days ago to Montreal, pointedly rebuked that element in our population which would stir up race and religious strife between the two great divisions of our people, that element in our midst which is ruled by its prejudices and not by any notion of patriotism. "This diversity of race," said the Secretary of State, "of language, and religion should have the same grand effect upon the eyes of the stranger as does the first view of our great rivers, our fertile valleys and our noble plains. We must learn, ay, we have learned, that spirit of tolerance which is at all times the characteristic of a great people. The Parliament of Canada has just given evidence of that feeling, which is shared in so large a measure by the sovereign people, when, by the faulty preparation of a certain bill men's prejudices had been aroused. This grand lesson of tolerance, which has been so well learned by the people and Parliament of Canada, should be taught to the coming generations of this country."

In all the ceremonies attending the celebration last week of the centenary of the inauguration of President Washington, the Catholics of New York took a conspicuous and a leading part. It happens that the chief ruler of New York is a Catholic, and, as Mayor, Mr. Grant welcomed the city's guests and stood first at every public ceremony. He happens also to be, we learn, an Ultramontane Catholic, that is an uncon-

promising Catholic, who for power would not abate one tittle of his faith. To those who remember the past, says the *Catholic Review* of Brooklyn, his high office was the least honour that fell to his share. The great hearts that longed for the day when it would be an ordinary event for Catholics to stand in high places—Hughes, England, Spalding and Brownson—are silenced, but their aspirations and their spirit live. "The millions," says the *Review*, "who fled from English rule in Ireland to find English hate in America, and whose sorrowful souls went from us in bitterness, have their sorrow lifted in bitterness and power. Not for the City of New York alone did Hugh Grant stand, nor even for the Americans of Irish blood, but for all the dreams, the unsatisfied longings, the honourable aspirations of the past, an atonement for its sufferings, a sign of the banishment of its evil spirit and a pledge of that bright future which lies before us."

The American Catholic journals, almost without exception, are congratulating themselves that one of the results of the Centennial ceremonies must be to more firmly establish on the *pars magna fuimus* principle—the tradition that the connection of Catholics with their history and their country began with Columbus, and is older than that of the Puritans and Plymouth Rock. The first bishop of the Catholic Church in the United States, the Most Rev. John Carroll, of Baltimore, was the friend of Washington, and an envoy of the Congress to Canada. A great bishop of New York was, in the Civil War, an envoy of the Government to France, and rendered the State service. At the end of the exercises in New York a few days ago, Archbishop Corrigan of New York pronounced the Benediction upon the city and country. Fifty years before, another Catholic prelate, Bishop England, of Charleston, delivered the panegyric on Washington before the citizens of Charleston at their request. In all the churches of New York, as in many other cities, a special Mass of thanksgiving was offered on Tuesday, by order of the Archbishop. Catholic soldiers filled the ranks of the army and the civic parade, and had only Sheridan been spared, the measure of their triumph would have been complete.

We think the time has quite come when the Catholic rate-payers of this city may not improperly ask that the proceedings of the Separate School Board be hereafter conducted *in camera*. The proceedings of this enlightened body not only of late, but for some years past, have been vastly funny, no doubt, when read in the newspapers next morning, but they have a serious side to them, and that is that their disorderly dissensions furnish much too dangerous a weapon to the opponents of the Separate School system, who were never more numerous, and one which, before long, may be actively employed by them.