

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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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

On Saturday the Pope received the deputation which represented the Church in America at the jubilee. It consisted of four bishops and a number of priests.

The Marquis of Bute (the Lothair of Disraeli's novel) has presented a chapel to the Catholics of Rothsay. It is understood the building, which will be very ornate, will cost \$80,000.

Mr. Parnell's health has decidedly improved, and though the organic disease remains he has obtained comparative relief from pain, and as a consequence has gained in weight and improved in appearance. He has been ordered to take horseback exercise and can be seen frequently on the Knightsbridge side of Rotten Row, mounted on a big bay horse. His delicacy is indicated by his amount of wine and the large ulster that he wears shows that in matter of dress and comfort he has no narrow provincial prejudices.

The Rome *Opinione* says it is not probable that the Pope seriously intends to intervene in the settlement of the Irish question in the interest of the present British Government. If the Duke of Norfolk really has an official mission, there is nothing to justify the hope that it will be successful. The Pope, it says, cannot go beyond advising the Irish

bishops to follow a policy of prudence and moderation, the Irish question being an economic and national one, and not a religious one. The *Opinione* extols Gladstone's policy as the most likely to pacify Ireland.

Mr. Wm. O'Brien, M.P., editor of *United Ireland*, was released from Tullamore gaol last Friday. He proceeded to the priest's house in Tullamore, followed by a large crowd, which cheered him repeatedly. Mr. O'Brien's looks denote that his constitution is shattered, and his physicians insist that he should go to the south of France for the benefit of his health. The people of Tullamore have presented Mr. O'Brien with an address, in which they say that they are indifferent to the coercion law, but that Mr. Balfour's execution of the law is brutal and a disgrace to the Government.

Mr. John Dillon, in a speech at Cambridge on Monday, declared that, notwithstanding the subserviency of the local magistracy to the tyranny of the Castle authorities, the Government's policy in Ireland was an abject failure. Wherever the League has been proclaimed, said Mr. Dillon, its strength had trebled. Some of the League's greatest Plan-of-Campaign victories had been gained in the past fortnight. Mr. Dillon's only fear was not that the spirit of Irish nationality would be quenched by coercion, but that the last chance of knitting the hearts of Englishmen and Irishmen in bonds of love and sympathy would pass unseized.

Liberals like Mr. Labouchere, M. P., men in whom the democracy place their political faith, take a serious view of the present administration of Ireland. Mr. Labouchere's words following are full of suggestiveness.—

"Mr. Balfour must be impeached as soon as there is a constitutional majority in Parliament. Had he merely acted in conformity with his own Coercion Act he would have been within the letter of the law. But he has not only perverted this Act, he has gone beyond it and trampled upon all law. What more did Strafford do?—and we know what happened Strafford when friends of the Constitution had a majority in Parliament. It is no excuse to Mr. Balfour's servile instruments that they act in obedience to orders any more than it would be to a magistrate in England who committed murder and pleaded the orders of Home Secretary Matthews. These men in the end will have to be ejected from public service, and they will have reason to be thankful if worse things do not befall them."

Who will say, in view of Mr. Wilfred Blunt's recent statements, that Mr. Labouchere hints at too much, or, that if, after being inquired into by Parliament, with every particularity of detail, charges having so much presumptive evidence of probability on the face of them, can be brought home to Mr. Balfour, advantage should not be taken of every constitutional precedent?