

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.

Sir Thomas Grattan Esmonde arrived in Quebec on Monday, and was met at the station by the president and officers of the Irish National League, Mayor Langelier and a large crowd of Irish sympathizers. Before going to his hotel Sir Thomas called on Cardinal Taschereau, to whom he was introduced by Mayor Langelier. He lectured in the evening to a very large audience, and left in the morning for Halifax.

In his speech at the banquet given in his honour on Tuesday at the St. Lawrence Hall, Montreal, Sir Thomas Esmonde, Bart., M.P., referred to the incongruity of his being present at a banquet in Canada at a time when so many of his friends in Ireland were threatened with imprisonment. "When I get back to Ireland," said Sir Thomas, "I can promise Mr. Balfour that I will give him plenty of opportunities to put me in prison."

The Pope on Tuesday received the British pilgrims, who were presented by the Duke of Norfolk. The Pope, replying to an address, said he felt grateful for the interest Queen Victoria took in her Catholic subjects, and prayed for her prosperity, with that of her nation, whom he loved and admired. He hoped for the restoration of peace between the different parts of the Kingdom, and that the irritating questions which now divide it would be settled, and reason and equity take their places. The health of the Pope, in spite of the great fatigue he has undergone, is excellent.

A grand entertainment was given in Montreal on Wednesday night, under the auspices of the Laval University, in honour of the fiftieth anniversary of Pope Leo's consecration to the priesthood. The gathering was attended

by Archbishop Fabre, several bishops and a large number of clergy, besides Secretary of State Chapleau and many prominent gentlemen. An interesting programme was carried out, the principal event of the evening being an address by Mr. Chapleau on Pope Leo XIII. as a Statesman. Mr. Chapleau sketched the career of the present incumbent of St. Peter's chair, and paid a high tribute to his wisdom and policy.

A story was lately cabled across to this country to the effect that the Rt. Rev. Dr. Dwyer, Bishop of Limerick, and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Healy, Coadjutor Bishop of Clonfert, were in sympathy with the Tory attempt to influence Mgr. Persico. Dr. Dwyer has written in contradiction a letter to the *Dublin Freeman*, strongly and clearly defining his position as a Nationalist and a friend of the tenants. In it he says: "Since the day I stood upon the hustings with Isaac Butt, I have never wavered in my conviction and my assertion of the right of the country to self government." Bishop Healy subscribes to Bishop Dwyer's letter, which he declares to be the full expression of his own convictions.

The *Nineteenth Century* for January will contain an important article by the Right Rev. Herbert Vaughan, the Bishop of Salford, on Leo XIII. and the civil power, urging the necessity of securing the civil independence of the Pope in order to prevent his becoming a mere agent of any nation or faction and in order to enable him to exercise his proper influence both on foreign relations and internal politics. The Bishop will contribute a second article on the same subject in the February number. The question is believed to be engaging close attention in high quarters of the State; but more than this cannot at present be stated. It is also believed there is a much greater disposition between the Vatican and the Quirinal to come to a friendly understanding as to the position and rights of the Pope than is generally supposed.

The imprisonment of Mr. Wilfrid Blunt invites a widespread demand that English Liberals of Cabinet rank should go over and challenge the Government also to arrest them by speaking at Woodford. It has already been suggested that Lord Ripon and Mr. John Morley should go to this proclaimed place and test the courage of the Government. There is much sympathy for Mr. Blunt, and there is certain to be a disturbance concerning him and other prisoners when the House meets. Mr. Blunt is in bad health, but he writes in a cheerful strain to his London friends. He says, "It has all turned out just as I wished. A few more cases like mine will bring down Salisbury and Balfour." When his time is up Mr. Blunt is to be brought to London in a triumphal procession, arrangements for which will be made on a great scale. The Ministers are having their innings at present, but on the re-assembling of Parliament their lives will be made miserable to them, and they will be sentenced each day to a fresh term of hard labour.