

# 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.

Such is fame! "A reader of the 'Imitation of Christ,' in its latest edition, has written an encouraging letter," says the *British Weekly*, "to the Rev. Thomas Kempis, care of the publisher!"

The Quebec Premier, Mr. Mercier, seems to have been unfairly attributed with having made the statement before the Baltimore Congress, that the Catholics and French-Canadians of Quebec were largely in favour of annexation. The bare report sufficed to draw out a storm of denial, and an indication of the true drift of Canadian opinion. Mr. Mercier appears to have said that a portion of the people were perhaps in favour of annexation, but, as his observation led him to think, only a small portion. The question has naturally caused much discussion. A despatch from Montreal, dated the 22nd inst., says that Archbishop Fabre of Montreal was asked to give his views on the subject, and replied that his personal views were well known, but that his Chancellor, the Rev. Father Edward would give a careful statement of the attitude of the Quebec clergy upon the subject, a point upon which he was authorized to speak. The Rev. Chancellor is reported to have spoken as follows:

"There is not an Archbishop, bishop or priest in all the Province of Quebec in favor of annexing Canada to the United States, and I do not believe the idea is even thought of by my fellow countrymen the French Canadians of Quebec. Our first thought is loyalty to the crown of England, and this, mind you, in the eyes of the Catholic Church of Canada comes before anything else. And then our own interests as churchmen and Canadians call for consideration. Our history is well known, and that teaches the world that from the time that Bishop Carroll of Baltimore and others came to Lower Canada for the purpose of soliciting our support in 1775 down to 1812 and 1837 we have been unswerving in our allegiance to England.

"It will be admitted that in times past the Imperial Government has pursued a mistaken policy toward us French-Canadians, just as she did in Nova Scotia and Upper Canada in the days preceding responsible government, but our church records and mandements are there to prove that through good and evil report the French Canadian clergy and people have never taken a second place in their loyalty and devotion to the Sovereign and to the crown of Great Britain, and they remain in the same place to-day.

"Heaven knows, this continent is vast enough for two great nations, and with an *entente cordiale* established between Catholics and Protestants of Canada every interest, whether of a personal, political, religious or commercial nature, must pronounce in favor of the two countries being kept apart. At the late convention in Baltimore we were only guests, consequently were not in a position to publicly inform the American prelates as to the real state of public feeling on the question in Canada. But I did so privately, and our language was just as strong in Baltimore as it is here in Montreal.

The bishops there were Americans, and, as a matter of course would like to see their country extended to the north, but there is quite as much patriotism on this side of the line as the other, and once more I say every interest, both national and religious, would suffer irrevocably were we to become a part of the American Republic."

This is looked upon in Montreal, it is added, as a final answer to the question of how Catholics stand on the subject of annexation.

## ARCHBISHOP WALSH

ALL hearts have welcomed the arrival of Archbishop Walsh in Toronto, whose coming had been looked forward to on all hands, and for months past, with the most eager and pleasurable anticipations. It is needless to say of the advent of the venerable Archbishop that he came to his archiepiscopal see as no stranger, and that the high place which he holds in the affection and esteem of his people found full and instinctive expression in the magnificent extent and enthusiasm of his public reception.

A full account of the reception and installation of His Grace, the addresses of the clergy and laity, and the impressive replies returned thereto by the Archbishop, are of necessity held over until our next number. For the present it is enough to say that, notwithstanding the unpropitious state of the weather, which made it impossible to carry out the programme of arrangements as originally intended, the reception was in no wise marred by it; the people turned out *en masse*; their manifestations of welcome and respect for the Archbishop were unbounded; and His Grace's coming, so far as the Catholics of Toronto could make it so, was everything that could be desired.

In honouring the Archbishop they honoured themselves. In the Providence of God a strong man has been placed over the Metropolitan See of Toronto, one who combines with great gentleness and kindness of disposition, rare qualities of the intellect, enviable powers of expression and eloquence, who to the prudence and firmness of a man experienced in affairs, unites the accomplishments and graces of the scholar,

"Wearing his Learning lightly like a flower,"

and with it also, let us add, the virtues proper to his exalted office.

What direction, under his leadership, Catholic activities may be expected to take, His Grace has himself indicated. In his reply to the clergy he said:

"The Holy Catholic Church was the first religion in the country except Paganism. The Catholic Church by the blood of its priests consecrated the country to God, and please God we will hold this country and work in this country no matter what opposition we may meet with. We shall, with the grace of God and the blessing of our divine Saviour, work together in unity and harmony, and with priestly zeal, for the honour and glory of God and the triumph of our holy religion.

And again in his address to the laity.

"Let us all be united in the great work of building up the Church of our fathers in this free and noble country. I have come amongst you to promote this cause according to my opportunities and the measure of my capacity. This is my mission, this is my only policy, to promote to the best of my ability and with the divine assistance, glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace to men of good will."

With this simple aim he comes amongst us, and under his fostering care the great interests committed to him will receive, we believe, their full and most beneficent development.