

Letter from the Prefect of the Sacred College to  
Bishop McDonell.

Ill<sup>me</sup> ac R<sup>me</sup> Domine,

Epistolam accepi ab amplitudine tua, die 20 Aug.  
1832, ad Rectorem Collegii Scottorum in Urbe (qui  
die 4 Januarii mortuus est) scriptam qua exponis  
quantopere audacter et tumultuose contra auctori-  
tatem tuam Sacerdos Hibernicus D. Guillelmus O'Grady  
se gesserit. Equidem considerans omnino necesse  
esse ad regimen Ecclesiasticum in ista Diœcesi con-  
servandum memorati Sacerdotis audaciam continere,  
primum declarandum prorsus esse judico falsum esse,  
eum a Sacra Congregatione facultates tales accepisse,  
ut quanquam in Diœcesi ista moretur, ab amplitudine  
tua tamen non dependeat. Hoc abhorret omnino a  
Sacrae Congregationis sapientia, quæ in concedendis facul-  
tibus Episcoporum auctoritatem semper sartam  
tectam esse debere constituit. Hæc autem cum ita  
sit, si vere D. Guillelmus O'Grady resipiscentia argu-  
menta non dederit, jure poterit A. T. in eundem sus-  
pensionem, et facultatum omnium revocationem animad-  
vertere. — Erit vero opportunum hanc responsionem  
Sac. Cong'nis, inter Missionarios notam fieri, atque  
etiam ad illorum Laicorum notitiam perducere, quos in  
partes suas pertrahere, et contra observantiam tibi de-  
bitam excitare D. O'Grady conatus est.

Quod spectat ad facultates, quas in memorata  
epistola petebas, est mihi pergratum, certiorum te  
facere posse, a S<sup>mo</sup> Domino nostro concessas fuisse,  
quemadmodum ex adjectis Decretis intelliges.

Sacra Congregatio denique vehementer laudat con-  
siliu a te susceptum, exarandi quemdam librum in  
quo referantur instituta omnia, quæ obtinent in ista  
Diœcesi ad Ecclesiastica et spiritualia negotia pera-  
genda. Facies vero rem gratissimam illum librum  
Romam mittendo, ut a Sac. Cong'ne examini subji-  
catur antequam in lucem prodeat; ad judicium vero  
instituendum utile certe erit, ut referas scripto rationes  
propter quas evenire poterit, ut isthic obtineant insti-  
tuta aliqua, quæ fortasse peculiarem S. C. considera-

tionem requirant. Precor Deum interea ut amplitu-  
dinem tuam diu hospitem ac felicem servet.

Amplitudinis tuae,  
Romæ ex aed. Sac. Cong'nis de Proda

Fide Die 19 Januarii, 1833,

uti Frater studiosissimus

C. M. Card'lis PEDICINI Pref'us,  
C. CASTRACANE, Secre'us.

Fol. C.

R. P. D. Alexandro MacDonell,  
Episcopo Regiopolitano  
in Superiori Canada.

Extracts from Mr. O'Grady's Speech, delivered at a public  
Meeting of Methodists and other denominations of Prote-  
stants, together with his own schismatical adherents, held in  
the Roman Catholic Church of this town, April 26, 1833:

"If indeed the dark and cheerless spirit of infidelity  
brooded over this fine appendage of the British Crown, I might  
look in vain for your countenance and protection—but ad-  
vanced as we are in civilization, in religion, and in science,  
you will not abandon that cause which men hold dear and  
nations holy. I repeat it again, it is not an isolated cause—  
it is one in which all classes of society should feel a deep and  
equal interest. \* \* \* And I am greatly mistaken if there  
be not sufficient firmness and virtue in the people to resist  
every effort of despotism, and to uphold inviolate the religious  
as well as their civil liberties. (Great applause.) But in  
order that this spirit might be brought into useful and active  
operation, the people should all become determined and uni-  
ed—the power of the mightiest despot can never crush an  
united people. Union presents a front of brass before which  
the most ruthless tyrant must quail and tremble. Union is  
strength—union is power—then unite and be free, nor relin-  
quish the boast for which our brave ancestors died. Look  
back to the records of former times, and you will perceive  
that it was only when the people were divided that they could  
possibly be enslaved. Remember the Irish volunteers. \* \* \*  
We must still unite in defending our ecclesiastical privileges.  
This is a matter for your consideration, whatever your creed or your  
country may be, as well as for mine, the best interests of so-  
ciety are necessarily involved in it, and you will therefore  
come like independent men, to stand for your rights, deter-  
mined to maintain them."

The above means—to support Mr. O'Grady in the contumacious discharge of his clerical duties, while under suspension, and in keeping forcible possession of the Parish Church, in opposition to his Bishop, and against the verdict of a jury in the Court of King's Bench, given upon an action of ejectment.