

# The Catholic Weekly Review.

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

*Reddite quæ sunt Cesaris, Cesaris; et quæ sunt Dei, Deo.—Matt. 22: 21.*

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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The project which has been afoot for two years of holding a great Catholic congress in London is likely to be realized, and it is possible that next summer will see a congress of lay and clerical delegates from all English speaking communities in the world. Preliminary meetings were recently held, at which three main subjects for discussion were suggested, namely, the attitude of the Catholic Church toward education in general, whether it is possible to arrange for greater co-operation of the laity in the work of the Church, and to consider what steps should be taken for the diffusion of Catholic literature among the masses. Cardinal Newman, Cardinal Manning and a majority of the Catholic hierarchy in England approved the proposal, which is to be submitted to a full meeting of the principal and most influential Catholics.

Mr. Chamberlain's explanation of the lofty manner in which he had referred to Canada only makes matters worse—in fact, as the *Globe* well remarked, Radical Joe "puts his foot into it every time he opens his mouth." When people make mistakes it has often been suggested that they should "go west," but we think that it would be better if Mr. Chamberlain would "go east"—that is, better for Mr. Chamberlain. From the day he left Liverpool on his mission of discord and treachery till date, he has been going from bad to worse. "Radical Joe" is more at home when attacking the Church Establishment in England than when talking about Canadian affairs, of which his ignorance appears to be unbounded. It was a stupid selection on the part of the Imperial Government to choose Mr. Chamberlain as its commissioner to Washington, and one which is likely to seriously injure Canadian interests. For, whatever people may say, Irish influence is very strong in the United States, even in the Senate, and proposals made by a man notoriously hostile to Ireland are not likely to be well received, though, perhaps, good in themselves. It is not fair to Canada that her interests should be entrusted to the keeping of such a bungler as Mr. Chamberlain, and that Canadians should in a certain manner be represented by such as he. If Mr. Chamber-

lain makes a treaty in the same style as he does an apology, he will give the lawyers something to scratch their wigs over.

Sir Wilfrid Blunt, an Englishman, formerly a Conservative but now a Home Ruler, was announced to preside at an indignation meeting to be held under the auspices of the British Home Rule Union in Woodford, County Galway. The meeting was proclaimed by the Government, and reinforcements of police and troops arrived in the morning and paraded the streets. The divisional magistrate, Mr. Byrne, forbade Sir Wilfred to hold the meeting, and upon his refusal to obey he was thrown from the platform by the police. Sir Wilfrid returned to the platform and was again thrown off and arrested. Regarding the action of the police as illegal, he refused to give bail, and for a week was imprisoned. This scandalous proceeding scarcely needs comment. That it will, however, have a good result is certain, for Englishmen will begin to open their eyes when they hear that one of their own nationality has been treated as a "mere Irishman." They will perceive that there is something rotten in the way in which the Tory Government secures "law and order," (?) and will not be slow to infer that if they do not remove the said Tory Government from office, the war will be carried into England, and we may possibly hear at no distant date that "Brummagem Joe" Chamberlain has been thrown down seven flights of stairs by an irate policeman who objected to the Radical's remarks on the House of Lords, the Established Church and kindred matters. Fancy Mr. Chamberlain with a green shade over one of his optics, with his nose swelled out of all proportion, going slowly through the streets of Birmingham on crutches, attended sympathetically by Messrs. Bright and Collings, each nervously eyeing the constables as they pass, fearing lest they too, might have offended the men in blue who carry out the behests of the Tories.

Lord Randolph Churchill, speaking at Stockton, referred to the arrest of Sir Wilfred Blunt. "Randy" says that the Nationalist leaders have made a tool of his friend, Sir Wilfred, but the fact is that he "Randy" has made something very similar of himself only the word begins with "I." Lord Churchill holds that Sir Wilfred Blunt is an impulsive man and knows nothing about "Irish affairs." So would Lord Churchill be impulsive if a policeman violently propelled him to the edge of a platform and deposited him on the ground below. When a man gets thrown off a platform of course it gives him an "impulse." Perhaps "Randy" wished to see Sir Wilfred stop in the air half way like Mahomet's coffin, and then let himself down easily. Again "Randy" finds that Sir Wilfred "knows nothing whatever about Irish affairs." Well, that may be. If so he is not a "rara avis" amongst Englishmen, at least amongst English Tories. But one thing Sir Wilfred does know about Irish affairs. He knows what it is to be unjustly imprisoned, an experience thoroughly Irish. He knows what it is to be refused a fair hearing, which is also so common in Ireland. Lord Churchill endeavoured to detract from the importance of the arrest. Doubtless he deems it worth his while to do his utmost to undervalue it.