

# 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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## CONTENTS.

NOTES.....	101
THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JOHN LONGWORTHY.....	M. F. Egan 102
FRON DANIEL DOUGHERTY ON ORATORY.....	103
JOHN DILLON.....	105
BUFFALO BILL IN ROME.....	106
IRELAND AND WHISKY.....	107
EDITORIAL—	
THE REVIEW and <i>La Verite</i> .....	108
The Catholic Movement in France.....	109
The Work of Montalembert and Lacordaire.....	109
The Bishop of Limerick.....	110
European Disarmament.....	110
The Resignation of Bismarck.....	110
The French Canadian Member of Parliament.....	110
Men and Things.....	111
General Catholic News.....	113
From our Exchanges.....	111
Poetry, Immortal.....	107

the will of a French majority, the leading newspaper organ deprecates attempts to abolish the legal use of the French tongue as unwise and uncalled for, the *Week*, of Toronto, where French votes count for nothing, prints poems with the following refrain:—

One God, one Language and one Law!  
Loud sound the slogan cry;  
Our laws be sung in the English tongue  
Or the bayonet by and bye.

“The trouble is,” says the *Gazette*, “that Toronto and Montreal are not far enough apart to keep this double endedness of argument from coming into collision.”

THE Montreal *Gazette*, which is republishing, among other papers, the articles which this REVIEW has addressed to *La Verite*, devotes in a late issue, a thoughtful and, seemingly, an almost meditative editorial to the subject, in which it speaks of “the conflicting forces that draw the pious Hamlets of our day this way and that.” “It is so easy,” the *Gazette* concludes. “to be dogmatic, to cite the text of creeds and articles and confessions of faith, and to show that by this standard and that everyone who does not accept it is in outer darkness. But to what purpose? What are we the better for knowing that a gulf yawns between us and our neighbors? If men acted on these formal beliefs human intercourse would virtually be at an end. The spirit of Christianity ignores such barriers, or disregards them. The letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.” In a certain sense this may be a somewhat liberal doctrine, but in the sense in which the *Gazette* means it, as against, that is to say, the pedantries of theological *petite maitres*, we believe that it is not open to exception. At all events it is the view which commends itself to so enlightened and devoted a Churchman as Cardinal Gibbons. Writing in his recently published work, “Our Christian Heritage,” about aggressiveness and repressiveness in religion, His Eminence says: “It is not by coercion but by the voluntary surrender of the citadel of the heart that man is converted. Coercion only drives the poison into the social body where it secretly ferments. Our Divine Saviour never invoked the sword to vindicate His doctrines. He rebuked His disciple when he once drew the sword in defence of His master, and commanded him to put it back into its scabbard. The weapons of our warfare, says the apostle, are not carnal but spiritual; they are the weapons of argument, of persuasion, and charity. The only sword I would draw against the children of unbelief is the sword of the spirit, which is the word of God, and the only fire I would light against them is the fire of divine love which our Lord came to enkindle in the hearts of men.”

The Holy Father is extending the hierarchy in Japan. He has lately created an Archbishop of Tokio, and has given that prelate four suffragan bishops. Whether the Mikado will think that His Holiness has committed an act of “aggression,” whether the new Archbishop will be denounced as the emissary of a foreign potentate, as “insolent and insidious, insidious and insolent,” remains to be seen. The *Weekly Register* conjectures that His Serene Highness will do nothing so foolish, however. “Only Anglicanism,” says that journal, “could yield that absurd spectacle of babyish jealousy; and even Anglicanism came to its right mind the morning after its outburst of petulant spleen. Japan contains no such element of disturbance. It takes all things with a calm which in the West would be called Christian resignation, but which the West calls torpidity and lethargy in the East.”

SOME of the London dailies are making merry, as may be seen by an article which we republish elsewhere, over the sensational character of the reports sent out regarding the presence of Buffalo Bill and his suite at the Vatican. They are also making merry at Mr. Stead, the late editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*, who, it will be remembered, went all the way to Rome a few months ago to give the Sovereign Pontiff a few suggestions as to the better government of the Universal Church. Speaking of the Buffalo Bill incident the London *Globe* says:—

“It is rumoured that Mr. W—m T. S—d yesterday at last gratified his ambition to have an audience with the Pope. A correspondent telegraphs to us that he believes he detected him in the disguise of a cowboy in the second row.”

THE Equal Rights agitation, says the Montreal *Gazette*, is developing one kind of political wisdom in its reverses. While in Montreal, where nothing can be done contrary to