

The Catholic Register.

"Truth is Catholic; proclaim it ever, and God will effect the rest."—BALMEZ.

Vol. II.—No. 11.

TORONTO, THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 1894.

PRICE 5 CENTS.

Register of the Week.

The most important debate in the Local House was that on the budget, which was presented on the 8th instant by the Provincial Treasurer, the Hon. Richard Harcourt, in a lengthy but clear and forcible speech. Interest receipts from the Dominion amounting to \$300,000, the subsidy and special grant of \$1,196,000 are regular sources of income. From Crown lands the unusual sum of \$1,828,550 was received last year. Public institutions also contributed, while from the Educational Department \$17,000 was received. Licenses were slightly under the previous year in number and amount—which fact, in conjunction with the careful carrying out of the law, has brought about "a marked and businesslike abatement of the evils of the liquor trade."

Turning to the other side of the account Mr. Harcourt reviewed the various items of expenditure, such as the Educational Department, public institutions, Railway aid. He was glad to announce that these expenditures had been kept below the estimate, so that the total ordinary expenditure last year was \$8,871,748. With a further review upon the special assets and liabilities of the Province the Treasurer congratulated the House and the Province upon the satisfactory state of its finances, and the economical and successful way in which his chief, Sir Oliver Mowat, had administered the affairs of Ontario for twenty-two years. That things are satisfactory may be judged by the not unfavorable criticism which the budget received at the hands of the Opposition and the Press. Although it is claimed that we are within hailing distance of direct taxation, very little real ground of complaint was found with the very able and fair statement.

The British Parliament reassembled on the 12th instant. Her Majesty's speech, the shortest on record, simply canvassed the unfinished business of the Gladstonian programme. Casting a hurried glance at the relations with Prussia in regard to the settlement of a frontier question in Central Asia, and with the United States for the purpose of executing the award in the Behring Sea questions, Britain is quite satisfied. Even the collisions which have lately taken place between the French and Colonial forces in West Africa are to be examined as to their causes with a dignity befitting two great nations.

The following is the Queen's message to the House of Commons:
Gentlemen of the House of Commons.

The estimates for the public service for the year will be laid before you. They will be found to make full and adequate provision for the defence of the Empire. The

recent improvement in the state of Ireland has been continuous and marked. Agrarian crime has been reduced under the administration of ordinary law to the lowest point reached in the last 15 years. The condition however of a considerable body of evicted tenants requires early attention. A measure will be submitted to you with the view of a reasonable settlement of a question deeply affecting the well being of Ireland.

Bills will be submitted to you for the amendment of registration laws and the abolition of plural voting in parliamentary elections, and measures dealing with the ecclesiastical establishment in Wales and Scotland will also be submitted.

There will also be presented to you bills with the object of equalization of rates in London, the establishment of a system of local government in Scotland on the same basis as that recently accorded to England and Wales and the exercise of direct local control over the liquor traffic. You will also be asked to consider measures for the conciliation of labor disputes, the amendment of the factory and mine acts and reforming the present method of conducting inquiries concerning fatal accidents in Scotland. Upon all your labors and deliberations I humbly implore the blessing and guidance of Almighty God.

If Her Majesty left her Irish subjects in doubt, Lord Rosebery's speech at a meeting of the Liberal leaders fills them with hope and restores their confidence. Everything is to go on as usual. There will be no change of measures, but only of men. "The Cabinet had no intention of receding from the policy they pursued at the last session. The honor of England was safe in their hands."

"Regarding the group of Irish questions the party were bound by every tie of honor to continue Mr. Gladstone's policy. It would be affectation to deny that his (Rosebery's) speech in the House of Lords had raised doubts as to his position on the question, but his critics must have read the speech in a very cursory way if they imagined that he designed to depart from a full acceptance of the Liberal policy. If there were any doubts on that point they ought to be set at rest by Mr. Morley's decision to remain in the Irish office."

The closing festivities and religious services of the Holy Father's Jubilee year took place on the 18th of February. On the morning of this date, Rome seemed to be all excitement. From an early hour an unending stream of carriages and foot passengers were hastening to St. Peter's to witness the Mass which Leo XIII. was to celebrate in thanksgiving for his Episcopal Jubilee. At an early hour the Piazza di San Pietro was crowded with anxious people, while the gates of the Basilica were besieged by persons wishing to secure tickets of admission. From the windows of the houses hung gay bunting of red and yellow. "The interior of the Basilica," says the Roman correspondent of the *Irish Catholic*, "was draped in red curtains and divided off into various tribunals so as to facilitate the maintenance of perfect order in so large an assembly." In a special tribune erected at the altar of the chair of St.

Peter, and before the statue of St. Longinus, were the members of the Pecci family, the noble ecclesiastics, and the *Camerieri Segreti* of his Holiness.

The tomb of the apostles was decorated magnificently for this occasion. It was surrounded by hundreds of candles and lamps. The steps leading to the Confession "were hidden beneath a multitude of festoons and flowers, which were the gift of several Roman Princes." To continue the above correspondent's description. "At 9 a.m. the Chapter, Clergy, and Seminary of the Vatican, headed by Cardinal Riccio, proceeded to the side door to meet his Holiness. At 9.15 the Noble Guards took their station around the Papal Altar. At 9.30 the Sovereign Pontiff, clad in a white chasuble, richly wrought in gold, the gift of the Roman ladies in 1888, wearing the precious mitre, the gift of the Noble Guard, entered from the Vatican. From the Loggia opposite the silver trumpets pealed the triumphal march of Longhi, which it is customary to play when the Pontiff enters the Basilica. Only one or two notes of the march were audible, for immediately the Pontiff was seen, the entire temple rang with deafening applause. Slowly the majestic figure of the aged Pontiff approached the Papal altar. It seemed as if the *sedes gestatoria* was moving over a sea of waving kerchiefs. His Holiness turned to the right and to the left, and bestowed his blessing to all the various societies and associations standing around their respective banners."

The Mass of the Holy Father began at 10 a.m., the Papal choir intoned the *Jubilato Deo, omnis terra*. There was "scarcely a sound heard throughout the immense Basilica during the Mass. At the moment of the Elevation, when the Vicar of Christ raised aloft the Sacred Host, the silver trumpets high up in the dome pealed forth the soul-stirring *Armonia reynesca* of Count Silveri, himself a member of the Noble Guard." After the Mass, while the Holy Father was making his thanksgiving, a choir of one hundred voices executed the *Oremus pro Pontifice*, which had a grand effect. After retiring for a few minutes to receive a little refreshment, the Holy Father returned, and intoned the *Te Deum* in a loud voice. "The verses were at once taken up by all present, and with marvelous unison the Catholic world poured forth the hymn of praise in thanksgiving for the glory conferred upon the Church Militant in the person of its Visible Head."

In the evening the Piazza of St. Peter and the facade of the Basilica were grandly illuminated, thousands of lamps blazed upon the roof of the

immense colonnade. The dome alone, which has not been lighted since 70, remained in darkness.

On Saturday, February the 24th ult., the eleventh Italian Catholic Congress was brought to a close. The speech of his Eminence the Cardinal Vicar was said to be the best of the evening, and was on that burning question of the day which the whole world is endeavoring to solve, the "Social Question." His Eminence said. "This question is the most important question of the day—a question which has superseded all political questions. Those who turn their attention away from this question to the exclusive consideration of political questions are like those who, amid the songs and gaiety of the populace, would close their ear to the threatening rumbling of Etna. Christian charity can alone solve the social question, something more is required than side-fire philanthropists great at the pen."

On the 20th of February, the Italian Parliament was opened. The number of visitors had been purposely limited, to avoid any unseemly demonstration. The exposition of the state of finances was read and showed a deficit for the current year of 177,000,000 francs.

Ellsworth, a town in Maine, U. S., is notorious for its know-nothing conduct in 1854. The Catholic children were turned out of the public schools; the Catholic church was burned down; and finally a gentle and laborious Jesuit Father, John Bapst, was tarred and feathered. This hateful spirit still lives in Ellsworth, but is more cowardly now than it was forty years ago. On Sunday March 4th last, when the Rev. Thomas F. Butler, rector of St. Joseph's church in this ill-famed town went to celebrate Mass, he found the entrance obstructed with a great cross draped with canvas, and thoroughly tarred and feathered. It was surmounted with a skull and crossbones on a placard bearing the inscription: "Butler's doctrine: Heathenism, atheism and infidelism."

The Protestant portion of Ellsworth seem to be fond of tar and feathers. Not long before this last dastardly act an effigy tarred and feathered, and bearing Father Butler's name, was found hanging on a tree near his house.

A Council of the A.P.A.'s in Toledo, O., is said to be split in two factions, "each with knives drawn against the other." The cause is a suit brought by the gun-dealer who supplied the members with ammunition, for the rising against the Catholics. "So bitter is the feeling," says an exchange, "between the factions that the disruption of the council is almost certain. At least the political influence of the society is destroyed."