

The Catholic Register.

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1896.

Calendar for the Week.

- Jan 1—Circumcision of our Lord, Holyday of Obligation. 2—Octave of St. Stephen. 3—Octave of St. John. 4—Octave of Holy Innocents. 5— Vigil of Epiphany. 6—Epiphany, Holyday of Obligation. 7—Of the Octave. 8—Of the Octave.

Our Almanac for 1896.

With its next issue THE REGISTER will publish free to subscribers a valuable sheet almanac for 1896, containing much useful and interesting information...

Last week's issue of THE CATHOLIC REGISTER was an admirable Christmas number. It contained many beautiful illustrations indicative of this festive season...

The late Cardinal Melchers, a sketch of whose life appears elsewhere, was the type of a militant Catholic. His part in the Kulturkampf, and his resistance to the Government...

In the excitement of the past week or two in the United States the voice of the Catholic hierarchy made a profound impression. The messages of Cardinal Logue, Primate of Ireland...

Oak Reformer.—In the religious world, one of the very best weeklies is THE CATHOLIC REGISTER, with its mission "Peace on earth, good will towards men."

The Star speaking for the P. P. A., tells us a resolution on the question of Catholic schools will be moved next session in the Legislature of Ontario. In bringing the Manitoba campaign of proscription down here...

We publish to-day Mr. Justin McCarthy's hopeful reference at Waterloo to the forthcoming Convention of the Irish race in Dublin. Mr. McCarthy's words express the spirit that has been called forth in the old country...

admitted, and as all the danger is to be looked for in Ireland, we are glad to observe how well the men under Mr. McCarthy's leadership are guarding the cause. With the return of Mr. Davitt...

Who Lord Dunraven is not. He is not a Cromwellian, or an Englishman, or a Norman, but a kindly Irish of the Irish, having a long train of more or less mythical Celtic ancestors...

A sermon delivered about a month ago by Canon Simpson, of Bradford, is referred to by the Liverpool Catholic Times. The Canon stated that he had been informed by a well known priest in Paris...

We cannot help extending a warm welcome to the initial number of Massey's Magazine, the new ten cent monthly issued from the Massey Press (Toronto, 927 King St. W.)...

"We are not in sympathy" with that class of Protestants who demand for their religious views and preferences a Government recognition in the public school which they deny to others...

the fact with all its consequences. Protestantism is not in respect to its views as strong as against all who do not accept it but if they decline to accept it and demand for themselves what they are not willing to concede to others, they are not to be weak.

New Year's Day.

We all experience a thrill of legitimate satisfaction when the midnight bells announce to waking mortals that a new year has dawned upon us. A feeling of sincere gratitude to Him in whom we live and have our being, springs from the heart and finds expression on our lips...

Time, which is so very short that it slips away from us even while we speak of it, is a gift vouchsafed to us by a merciful Providence, the proper use, or the mis-use of which must be attended with the most serious consequences. It may be said of time as of the Saviour of mankind...

Cardwell, Montreal Centre and Jacques Cartier.

Some of the Conservative daily papers have shown a ready disposition to shift the blame of the Cardwell Montreal Centre and Jacques Cartier elections on to the alleged unpopularity of the Government's policy on the Manitoba School question...

In Montreal Centre Sir William Hingston has been defeated. The explanation of his defeat we must leave to the party politicians. It is enough for us to say that Sir William set an example to every patriotic man in the country by putting aside his distaste for public life, the calls of his profession and the comforts which a man at his time of life expects to enjoy...

He further denied that this was the honest intention of the Government. When Mr. Laurier took this stand he did all in his power to withdraw the School question from the contest. Sir William's defeat must be accounted for on other grounds, and we are not concerned in these matters beyond pointing out that the results both in Montreal and Cardwell indicate no change in public opinion upon the School question...

Principal McVicar.

Principal McVicar of Montreal Presbyterian College was last week interviewed by a reporter of the Chatham Banner. He had been called to Chatham Co. of Kent to attend the funeral of his late brother Neil McVicar. On so solemn an occasion one would expect that the Rev. Principal would make an effort to be serious, and if not grateful, at least prove truth ful, when speaking of the French-Canadians...

The reporter continues: "In his own pleasant way Dr. McVicar relate incidents coming under his notice, while he was traveling through some of the rural parts of Quebec, which illustrated the desire of the habitants for a better education, and gave promise of the lifting of the clouds of ignorance, and the approach of a more enlightened period for this section of the country."

One incident occurred in a rural district (no name given) where the teacher, a low set woman, spoke in broken English, with an accent half French, half German. This led the Doctor to inquire her nationality, to which she replied: "Sherman."

"Why do you teach English to the boys?" asked Dr. McVicar of the queer little pedagog—(is it thus the word is spelled in Chatham, Ed. C.R.?) "Oh, hum vents it when him goes away," she replied. "And do you teach it to the girls as well?" asked the Doctor. "Oh, yes," she replied. "Him vents it too, because him might want to go away."

We venture to proclaim aloud that no such school, or such "low set," "Sherman," pedagogues, may be found in the Province of Quebec. Let Principal McVicar name the district and name the teacher. The Principal further said: "The newspaper writers in Ontario will not admit that the Protestants have a grievance in Montreal. But I maintain it and have frequently asserted it in the press of Ontario. It is this: The school taxes derived from neutrals, that is from corporations, such as railway companies, banking institutions, joint stock and manufacturing companies, are divided between the schools in proportion to the population."

There is the standing grievance. As these corporations belong to no Church, it is said corporations have no souls, no religion, therefore. The Protestant schools should get the lion's share of such taxes. They are not satisfied with an equal share with the Roman Catholics, in proportion to population.

The facts are not as stated by Principal McVicar. The facts are that one third of the corporation, or neutral taxes in Quebec, is handed over to the Protestant Separate Schools, whereas according to population they are entitled to but one-seventh.

And yet Dr. McVicar is not satisfied. When the doctor undertakes to enlighten the people of Chatham, in the Co. Kent, he ought to tell the honest truth.

Principal McVicar might have told the reporter that in this enlightened and tolerant Province of Ontario, not one cent of these neutral taxes is allowed to the Catholic Separate Schools.

We must cherish the hope that some minister of education, will arise in Ontario who will have the courage to introduce a measure of toleration in our legislature, that will give our schools, if not one third, at least some portion of these neutral taxes that will not leave us for ever handicapped in our efforts to provide all the material and equipment we require to place our Catholic separate schools on a level with, if not superior to, any schools in the Dominion.

Christian Powers Humiliated.

The over-inflated bugaboo of war between the United States and England having had the wind knocked out of it completely, the Armenian horrors present themselves once more to the Christian world. England is afraid to move against the unspakable Turk who has Russia behind him! This is the only meaning that can be taken from the supineness of Lord Salisbury's Government. Mr. Gladstone declares England is disgraced; Lord Rosebery says the Premier has misled the country. Whether they are just in the censures they pass upon the responsible head of the Government, or whether Lord Salisbury's prudence shall yet be vindicated, the situation for the time being can only create surprise and humiliation. The so-called "European Concert" evidently thinks less of the spectacle of the Turk rioting in Christian blood than of their own international jealousies. It was not so in the brave days of old when Catholic Christianity was a fact in holy war and not a merely national profession. Back upon those heroic ages Christians of our times may well turn their wistful eyes!

What a fuss was made a few weeks ago about an additional guardship at Constantinople. Loud applause greeted the end of that fiasco; but the Christian population of Armenia had little joy in it. The havoc and rapine not only increased, but since the doubling of the guardships reports of wholesale massacre in the interior come thicker and faster upon the astonished world with each succeeding day.

What is to be the end of this horrible delay? The Sultan is apparently working hard to terminate the suspense by wiping out every Christian in his empire, man, woman and child.

The Remedial Order.

The letter sent by Mr. Chisholm of Halifax to the Globe, published in this issue should be read side by side with the case the Manitoba Government seeks to make out against remedial legislation in its rejoinder to the Dominion Government on the School question. The sum of Manitoba's reply is found in the following declaration which is quite clearly made.

It is therefore recommended that so far as the Government of Manitoba is concerned the proposal to establish a system of Separate Schools in any form be positively and definitely rejected, and that the principle of a uniform non-sectarian Public School system be adhered to.

For the rest the rejoinder is but a laborious attempt to draw a lawyer's distinction between the word "grievance" used in the judgment of the Privy Council and the plain meaning of the word "injustice." The legal phraseology by which this quibble is supported fails to dignify the farrago of utter nonsense through which the writer wades to an absurd conclusion.

Here is the conclusion: The judgment of the court that the minority have a grievance does not in any way indicate that a political movement has been started.

It is well to have the boasted liberty of Orangeism so clearly revealed.

Surely the people of Canada have had enough of this sort of thing to be finally understood that Manitoba in ten is stuck to the end by the outrage put upon the Catholic minority and upon the Constitution. What then are the simple facts before us? A remedial order has been issued and that order the government of the day, whether Conservative or Liberal, must act upon. Mr. Chisholm tells us—and as a constitutional lawyer his opinion is entitled to no small degree of respect—that the remedial order cannot be withdrawn or revoked. Whoever drew up the rejoinder of the Manitoba Government was thoughtful enough to admit that "whether any power exists to amend or rescind the remedial order is also a subject of some doubt."

The people must be heartily sick of all this shuffling. The remedial order is there, and until Parliament has acted upon it there it will stay.

A Catholic Siege of Derry.

In a recent issue of THE REGISTER we described the action that has been taken by the Belfast Catholic Representation Association to secure some recognition in the municipal government of the northern capital for a body of its citizens who number one-fourth of the total population. The Orangemen of Belfast, who monopolize the administration of its affairs, turning a deaf ear to the justice of the case of their Catholic neighbors, the worthy Bishop of Down and Connor consented to preside over the organization of the minority and take up the battle of right against intolerance. The Orangemen do not relish the position they have been placed in, but it will go hard with them before they make any concessions.

A more glaring case of the same Orange notion of equal rights has since been shown up in Derry, where the Catholics, although actually a majority of the city population, are without representation in the council. The Orangemen of to-day it would appear hold Derry by the science of gerrymandering and the peculiarity of the franchise. At a recent meeting of Catholic ratepayers of Derry the action of the Belfast Catholics came up for consideration, and it was resolved to petition with them for the extension of the franchise on the English model. If this were secured it would give Catholics both in Belfast and Derry a representative place in the government of those cities. The Derry corporation, fully alive to the danger in the air, is preparing to throw up additional fortifications. This we gather from the following paragraphs in the Catholic resolutions:

"That we, the Catholic ratepayers of Derry, in meeting assembled, protest against the Londonderry Corporation Bill as a last effort to prevent the Catholic majority of the people from acquiring any power in the municipal affairs of the city."

"That the proposed extension of the city boundaries so as to include an entirely rural area of 35 square miles is ludicrous and absurd, and cannot be designed for any honest purpose of municipal government."

With solemn and impressive ceremony Mgr. John M. Farley was consecrated Auxiliary Bishop of New York last Saturday morning. A congregation that overtaxed the seating capacity of the Cathedral gathered before the time set for the services, and the side aisles were filled with persons unable to find seats. The service lasted three hours. Three Bishops assisted in it. The consecrator was Archbishop Corrigan. Bishop McDonnell, of Brooklyn, and Bishop Gabriel, of Odgensburg, acted as assistant consecrators. Bishop McQuaid preached the sermon.