

The Catholic Weekly Review.

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

Reddite quæ sunt Cæsaris, Cæsari; et quæ sunt Dei, Deo.—Matt 22: 21.

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Notes.

The following letter appeared in the *World* and other city papers on Wednesday. The writer, Father Jones, is a cousin of Messrs. Beverley and Clarkson Jones, and a nephew of Mr. W. J. Macdonell, of this city:

SIR,—The attention of the members of the Society of Jesus, established in Montreal, has been drawn to the reproduction in your issue of Tuesday morning, Feb. 12, of what is stated to have been published in *The Semeur Franco-American* as an oath taken by Jesuits. The reproduction alluded to is a gross libel on the Society of Jesus; I therefore request you to insert the present most formal repudiation of any such oath. As a member of that order for the last thirty-one years, familiar with its constitution, its principles and its modes of action, I deny that any oath of that nature is or could be taken by any Jesuit or Catholic.

I am not wholly unknown in Toronto, having there many dear friends and relatives, both Protestant and Catholic. For which reason I now, over a responsible name, with the full approval of the proper authorities, denounce, on the part of the order, that doctrine among others maliciously imputed to us, namely: That we, or other members of the Catholic Church, may lawfully disobey or be disloyal to secular princes or governments, either Catholic or Protestant, in matters secular.

I regret that the calumny was not brought to our knowledge sooner—and in all likelihood others have escaped our notice, as we see few, if any, Toronto papers. We are fully determined, as citizens enjoying the same rights and protection as other subjects of our beloved sovereign, to take prompt measures to vindicate our good name, and to hold accountable those who publish maliciously any libel which is of a nature to detract from the usefulness of the society.

Trusting fully to that spirit of fairness which is the boast of every Anglo-Saxon all the world over, and which, quite independently of other considerations, should prompt them as all other fair-minded men to have a wrong righted, I expect that you will publish this letter in your next issue. Yours very respectfully,

ARTHUR E. JONES, S.J.

St. Mary's College, Montreal }
18th February, 1889. }

Very Rev. Dean O'Connor, Bishop-elect of Peterborough, will be consecrated on May 1st. A few days later Bishop Dowling will be installed in the See of Hamilton.

A good part of our space this week is taken up by the Jesuit Question, the one subject of absorbing interest just now. To the very full consideration of the question given in another column we would but add that, however much Catholics personally may be disturbed by the little tempest now raging around us, one thing should not be lost sight of, i. e., that the louder and fiercer the clamour may be, it but brings out the more clearly the fact that *we are felt* in this Province. Insult and persecution serve only to draw the attention of men to the fact that *there is a Catholic Church* and that she is *one and everlasting*, and when the present agitation has died away, as it surely will, and that in a very short time, and those who have been instrumental in raising it have, in shame and confusion, slunk back into their natural position of heretical insignificance, the Church will be found to be vastly the gainer for the publicity given her. At least, if she does not, history, for once, will have failed to repeat itself. The attitude of Catholics should be one of calm, sober self-respect; ready to defend the truth when called upon, and not at all backward to oppose the hollowness and sham of the system (or rather, lack of system) called Protestantism. Protestantism has its birth in pride and sensuality; it has grown and flourished on the basest passions of the human heart; it is going to pieces (like the frail bark that it is), on the rocks of leisure and unbelief; and will before very long disappear beneath the waves of sensuality. (In what we say, we of course make no reference to Protestants individually, but only to their odious and absurd system.) What, then, is this thing that dares to make war upon the Church of God, a system that under the guise of Christianity makes even the Divinity of Christ a matter of opinion. It is simply "the Gates of Hell" which, the fiercer its onslaught may be the more complete will be its overthrow. Let Catholics, then, bear this in mind, and not allow ourselves to be cowed by the loud mouthings of the pulpit, platform and press. Truth and justice are on our side, and in the long run they triumph. We speak in the first person, because, be it forever clearly understood, Catholics identify themselves most thoroughly with the Society of Jesus, on whose devoted head the present storm beats with the greatest bitterness.

All must have remarked on Sunday, that His Lordship Bishop Walsh looked unusually well. Without looking any less venerable and priestly than usual, he appeared to be in possession of the vigour and sprightliness of a man of thirty-five, and, as he stated to the writer in an interview which he was kind enough to grant to us, he had never been in better health. During the course of the same interview he very generously expressed his admiration and appreciation of *The Review*. "Keep to your present line," he said, "and you will become a power in the land. Your principles are thoroughly Catholic, and I shall be glad to do all in my power to encourage and aid you in the good work;" praise which in light of some recent adverse criticisms which our fidelity to the truth, has drawn upon us, is ample compensation for years of toil and volumes of fault-finding. The report of his Sunday's sermon, in another column, has been revised by His Lordship for this Review.