

The Catholic Weekly Review.

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

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Notes.

In his speech at St. Raymond a few days ago, Mr. Mercier announced that his Government intended paying over the Jesuits' Estates monies on the fifth of November. The obnoxious Act, assented to on the Twelfth of July, will thus be consummated on Guy Fawkes' day. Another infamy!

On the same day as the names are handed to the Roman Catholic authorities the sum of \$60,000, or thereabouts, will be paid to the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, provided the necessary conditions are complied with. The payment of these sums will not necessitate, the Quebec Premier added, the negotiation of an additional loan.

The Shah of Persia, who seems to be, after all, an enlightened monarch, has again declared that his Catholic subjects shall enjoy full religious liberty so long as he rules. His Majesty has often shown special consideration to Catholic missionaries, and never loses an opportunity of promoting the labours of the Sisters of Charity. He lately caused an insult of the Pope to be imprisoned.

The Queen having found it impossible to comply with the desire expressed by the Chamber of Commerce, and Royal Dublin Society that Her Majesty should visit Ireland next spring to open the National Museum of Science and Art, both the bodies named have invited the Prince of Wales to discharge this important function. The *Irish Catholic* of Dublin, while of opinion that both institutions would display more self respect if they refrained from running after royal personages, adds that the Prince of Wales, however, is a Home Ruler, and if he visits Ireland will be received with courtesy.

The last number of the *American Journal of Philosophy* contains a notable article on "Speech Mixture in French Canada," the author of which pays a high compliment to the French Canadian race. "The solidarity of the Latin stock, he says, "is so extraordinary that the Anglo-Saxon invariably

has to yield whenever a face to face struggle ensues as to the maintenance of the old Gallic race traditions, or to the conquest of broader domains for the exercise of new powers of industry and intellectual life." Of the French language the writer believes that it is to-day as firmly established on the banks of the St. Lawrence as in the home of its birth, a result which he attributes to the rich mental gifts and the strong personality of the Lower Canadian people.

Punch suggests that Lord Salisbury should recognize the services rendered by Cardinal Manning during the London strike by recommending him to the Queen for inclusion in the Privy Council. We learn from the *Weekly Register* that the idea is not a new one and that there was serious talk some time ago of offering His Eminence a Peerage in consideration of his great services as a philanthropist—and possibly also with the idea of giving a substantial prop to the gilded chamber. "The idea," says the *Register*, "is one which Lord Beaconsfield would have delighted to realize had he lived till now. But these things are the toys of Statesmen. The Cardinal has his chosen reward in the benefits he confers on the people, and in the love with which they regard him."

"The weak point in the case of the opponents of the Jesuits' Estates Act," writes Professor Goldwin Smith in *Macmillan's Magazine*, "is that two years ago an act incorporating the Jesuits was allowed to slip through without protest. The explanation is that the Protestant minority in Quebec is so weak and so thoroughly overborne that it has been sinking into a state of torpid resignation, while the British province usually takes little notice of anything that is going on in Quebec. The Jesuits' Estates Act seems, however, at last to have aroused the Protestants of Quebec as well as the people of Ontario." Such is the impression which Professor Smith seeks to convey to the minds of English readers: that the Jesuit Act was a legislative trick, which passed unnoticed; and that the Protestant minority in Quebec are in a state of permanent and dire dejection. As a simple question of fact, both the Incorporation and the Estates Acts, were sufficiently before the Protestant public to enable any intelligent reader of the news of the day—and still more any person who took an enlightened interest in political affairs to become fully acquainted with their nature. "If," says the *Montreal Gazette*, "Mr. Goldwin Smith is unaware of that fact, he undertook to write the story of the recent agitation without supplying himself at accessible sources with the data that were necessary to insure accuracy and completeness." With respect to Mr. Smith's statements, it adds that it is not worth while to renew a discussion that has long since been worn threadbare, "but when a writer," it says, "whose name carries a certain weight with certain readers, volunteers to enlighten the British public on the events occurring in Canada, the least we have a right to expect is that his statements should be accurate." "A certain weight, with certain readers"—mark the satire in the words.