

ST. VIATEUR'S COLLEGE JOURNAL.

LECTIO CERTA PRODEST, VARIA DELECTAT. Seneca.

VOL. V

BOURBONNAIS GROVE, ILL. SATURDAY, May 21, 1887.

No 3.

A. H. PIKE. JEWELLER.

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ST. VIATEUR'S COLLEGE JOURNAL.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY,
BY THE STUDENTS.

EDITORS.

MR. J. CUSACK.....'87.
MR. A. GRANGER.....'87.
MR. P. WILSTACH.....'89.

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All communications should be addressed "St. Viateur's College Journal," Bourbonnais Grove, Kankakee Co., Ill.

EDITORIALS.

A RUMOR has it that we are to be regaled by Band recitals twice a week during the evening recreations. Anything that heightens our enjoyment of our college life is most welcome. Let us have the Band by all means!

* * *

THE ORCHESTRA is to be congratulated for its late selection and rehearsal of pieces which we think will be more relishable, though perhaps less *classique*. The popular taste always deserves more or less consideration, and we are happy to see that our musical gentlemen have condescended to accord us something we can all relish and clap our hands at.

* * *

FOR CLEAR MUSICAL sounds and a sure and felicitous execution we very much admire the young clarionetist, Mr. A. Frazer and his harmonious bower flutist, Dandurand. Their notes are full of soft mellowness, and are given with a readiness and a precision so faultless that we hesitate not to pronounce a remarkable future for these young amateurs. We love to hear their exquisite solos.

THE MUCH-AWAITED contest in *Elocution* has happened. We cannot say that as a whole it surpasses that of a year ago. However, such as it was, this year's display unquestionably evidences able training and good talent to show it forth. We are as anxious as any to know who is the lucky one. Who?

* * *

APPLICANTS for degrees are daily seen promenading along the shady places counting their closely writ note-books and making a sure thing of it. We laud their deserving diligence and hope on the grand day to applaud their merited success.

* * *

THE DESTINIES of premiums and medals are the all-absorbing topic of discussion at this hour. This, as a sign of the times, is a favorable and a gratifying one.

* * *

"SWIMMING is a healthful exercise," says herr Convey in a late elucubration on this subject, "and it ought to be freely indulged in especially by the young." We are of an opinion with the sentiment.

* * *

IT IS WITH much pleasure we learn and announce that the ordinations which have been expected for some time are to take place during the first week of June or thereabouts. They will be performed by His Grace Archbishop Feehan in the cathedral of the Holy Name, Chicago, Ill. We anticipatively congratulate the happy aspirants who will on that occasion see the accomplishment of their ardent wishes, receiving the priesthood. It will be a day of all happiness, of triumph, a glorious day.

* * *

HIS GRACE Most Rev. P. J. Feehan, Archbishop of Chicago, will preside at our annual commencement on the 23rd of June. He will also in the evening assist at the closing exercises of Notre Dame Academy. We reckon it high honor and encouragement to be favored with the distinguished presence of our devoted Archbishop and we are therefore, students and Faculty, deeply and sincerely thankful to him.

LECTURE IV.

"BOOKS AND THEIR INFLUENCE—NOVELS" DELIVERED BY REV. F. REILLY OF GILMAN, ILL., AT ST. VIATEUR'S COLLEGE, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1887. (Concluded.)

Then few considerations make manifest the importance that our literary favorites be the healthiest, wisest and best. Add to this the preciousness of time: that life is too short to while it away in useless, much less, dangerous employment and we become impressed with the urgency of giving our spare moments to making literary incursions into fields of bloom and flower rather than venturing into the coloring and festening swamps.

Going still farther than this in speaking of books, Ruskin asks, "Will you go and gossip with your housemaid or your stable-boy, when you may talk with kings and queens, while this eternal court is open to you with its society wide as the world, multitudinous as its days, the chosen and the mighty of every place and time? Into that you may enter always, in that you may take fellowship and rank according to your wish; from that once entered into it, you can never be out-cast but by your own fault."

These words of Ruskin spoken of books in general in contradistinction to idleness or willful loss of time and implying the dignity and nobility of student life, may also be applied to the novel. Just think of the host of novels, even good ones, that the present century alone has brought to light. Scott, Bulwer, Thackeray, Dickens, George Elliot, have each written much with which the student of literature can ill afford to be unacquainted. They are leaders and have left the impress of triumphal march. We have, besides, the nautical novels of Marryat, the political ones of Disraeli, the military, of Lever the muscular christian of Kingsley, the governess novels of Brontë, school novel of Hughes and Farrar, sensational of Wilkie Collins and others. In our country, Hawthorne, Cooper, Bret Harte, Howells, the James, Helen Hunt, Jackson, Cable, have introduced us to paths which Bancroft penetrated not. These are a few, a very few, of those known to the reading public. Each of the many monthly magazines has its regular story writers, all trying to give us the yet unwritten American novel. Not a few catholics are doing much in this line; "Fabiola," "Callista" "Loss and Gain," "The Betrothed" etc, are now literary common places; but as Dr. Newman tells us, English literature will always have been protestant. Mrs. Sadlier, Christian Reid, Kathaleen O'Meara have written that in which there is true encouragement.

I am simply to-night accepting the fact that you are going to do a certain amount of novel reading, and

that as wise men—especially as men of education—you will cast your fortunes only with the best company. To do otherwise is a willful, wanton loss of time. To read fiction for any other purpose than thought and style is mental suicide. "Not to be whiled away in aimless dreams, life and its choicest faculties were given," The thought value, expressional value and impulsive virtue of a book ought to determine you in the selection of reading matter. As a rule the book which leaves a bad impression, leaves one weak, discouraged, full of doubt, or that draws the mind away from its noble convictions of right, is detrimental, positively bad in result. A good book should be a power upon one's life, an inspiration to send one forth to be and to do good. Unless we rise from the reading of a novel with higher ideas of courage and nobility and purity and manliness, feeling that a support, true encouragement, has come from an unlooked for quarter, better were that novel unread, for the mind has been only dulled and rendered passive. For these reasons is Thackeray perhaps my general favorite.

Learn therefore, whatever your aim in life or wherever cast in future to be truly good readers, "which," as Carlyle says; "is perhaps a more difficult thing than you imagine. Learn to be discriminators in your reading; to read faithfully, and with your best attention, all kinds of things which you have a real interest in,—a real, not an imaginary,—and which you find to be really fit for what you are engaged in." The end of literature is to do that which could not be done without literature. Make it so in your case.

BEN—HUR.

There is in the fictitious literature of to-day and acknowledged lack of Christian, or rather Catholic productions. The really legitimate, wholesome, true and good department of fiction has in English and especially in our American literature been sadly neglected. In this class, however scantily furnished it may be, we would point out two novels as pre-eminent, not alone because they are Christian stories, but because their hero and heroine are the very embodiment of the noble, the heroic, the good, and the pure. These two are Cardinal Wiseman's *Fabiola* and Lew Wallace's *Ben-Hur*.

Fabiola has adorned literature for upwards of thirty years, *Ben-Hur* is little more than five years old. The author of the former was a constant writer and his collected works would fill many volumes, Wallace is comparatively a novice, having written only one other work besides *Ben-Hur*. The former although a grand and at the same time a beautiful work is perhaps little

known outside Catholic circles, the latter has won for itself and its author such a favor and widespread reputation among all denominations as places it on an equal with any of the best English novels, Catholic or non-Catholic. After comparing these two works I may conclude that Ben-Hur and *Fabiola* are in point of merit about equal, but in popularity the former far exceeds the latter. But, not to wander too far from my *subject*, I must endeavor now to give the super-abundant merits of Ben-Hur itself.

The first exclamation that passes the lips of the reader as he finishes the last page of Ben-Hur is that "It is beautiful." Yes, from beginning to end it is a most fascinating work; attractive not as the ordinary novels by woollings and winnings, and adventurous hope and mis-haps, but made attractive first by the exquisite style of the author. I scarcely dare call his manner ancient; but the quaint diction is so adapted to the characters, times, and places, that I am sometimes even persuaded to say so. Jenkins says of Lytton: "The author of *Pompeii* did not absolutely overcome the peculiar difficulties inherent to a subject of antiquity." The same cannot be said of Wallace.

The second very striking feature of Ben-Hur is the profusion of rare descriptions, scattered throughout the work, which bring vividly and distinctly before the mind whatever the author attempts to describe. He leaves little to the imagination. His pictures are certainly painted with a richness at once and a delicacy and color that cannot fail to elicit the highest encomium from the most severe critic. The three descriptions which impressed me the most were the meeting of the wise men in the desert, the chariot race in the circus at Antioch, and the crucifixion, and all are certainly excellent, if not far beyond anything in fictitious or historical literature. Wrapt as you are in his beautiful style you almost forget what you read and seem to be present in very person, now, watching the approach of the wisemen on the far eastern desert, now at the antiochian circus, gazing with breathless anxiety at the glittering chariots of Ben-Hur and Messala as they double the bend for the last time and approach the goal of victory, and again by his seemingly magnetic power he hustles you along 'mid the Jewish rabble to Calvary height, there beholding in sacred awe the death of Christ.

What for instance could be more accurate and at the same time more beautiful than the following passage on the death of our Saviour. Doth it not speak to the soul this? "The face then plainly seen by Ben-Hur, bruised and black with blood and dust as it was, lighted nevertheless with a sudden glow: the eyes opened wide and fixed on some one visible to them in the far heavens; and there was content and relief, even triumph in the shout the victim gave.....the light in the

eyes went out; slowly the crowned head sank upon the laboring breast. Ben-Hur thought the struggle over, but the fainting soul recollected itself, so that he and those around him caught the other and last words, spoken in a low voice, as if to some one listening close by:—"Father into thy hands I commend my spirit."—

A tremor shook the tortured body; there was a scream of fiercest anguish, and the mission and the earthly life were over at once. The heart with all its love was broken; for of that, O reader, the man died!"

Another, and not by any means the least beauty is that, throughout, the work evinces a thoroughly christian spirit. Written as it is by a Protestant, and a Methodist, one would expect at least a partial spirit piercing through in speaking of things Catholic, whereas on the contrary Mr. Wallace speaks most beautifully of the Blessed Virgin and the early Christians, and the hero himself becomes a christian and an able defender of the same religion. The following beautiful passage bears witness to the authors appreciation of Mary:

"She was looking up at the bold top of Gedor. The sun touched her upturned face and filled the violet depths of her eyes, and upon her parted lips trembled an aspiration which could not have been to a mortal. For the moment all the humanity of her beauty seemed refined away: she was as we fancy they are who sit close by the gate in the transfiguring light of heaven."

The plot is intricately woven and does not for a moment cease to preserve the attention of the reader. I feel myself inadequate to relate the story in a relishable manner for each incident is so essential that the omission of anyone would mar the whole. It would seem like exhibiting a skeleton to give an idea of a grecian athlete. To appreciate the work you must read it, and to read it is to admire it: for its style, its descriptions, its Christian spirit and its plot are such as will claim the admiration of all and any who peruse its delightful pages.

P. W. '89.

THE SCHOOL QUESTION.

REV. MODERATOR, OFFICERS, AND MEMBERS OF
ST PATRICK'S LITERARY ASSOCIATION:

It is not my intention in this Short paper, to speak of the great injustice Catholics suffer from the Public school system as now understood and carried out, nor to propose a new system, but simply to show some of the pernicious effects which naturally flow from such a system of education as the one now existing.

That this question of schools is one of great importance, it is hardly necessary for me to say. Every one

knows that upon our schools depends the moral and intellectual prosperity of our country: they are the moulds that form our citizens. As his Holiness, Leo XIII so well and truly says in one of his letters, "the schoolroom is the great battle-field upon which is to be decided the problem of whether the world is to remain christian and civilized or to become again pagan and barbarous." Wherefore does it become us as christians to rally up our forces and take a bold stand in so important a struggle.

Our present school system, which we claim is unjust and in every way deficient in its means to true education, is, we know, a perverted one, and by no means what its originators intended it to be. We see that it took rise in the New England States which were settled by a set of brave men who belonged to the protestant sects known as Congregationalists and Presbyterians. Fired by a laudable zeal for the course of education, one of the first things these people did was to build schools. Those schools were supported by taxation levied either on the property of the district or *per capita* on the scholars attending, which latter method was the most common and also the most just as by it only those were taxed who used the schools. Later on however, taxation was placed altogether on property, and this for the very good purpose of extending the benefits of education equally to all classes. But never did it enter the minds of these men to separate religion from education: they were of the conviction that these two things should always go hand in hand, and they carried on their schools accordingly. The pastor of a parish visited the school and gave there religious instruction as often as he saw fit. Of course we Catholics hold that the religion taught was not the true one, yet it retained something of Christianity and as such was vastly superior to no religion at all. At any rate the system was good in its principles and we cannot but admire it in itself.

The State thus became proud of its school system; a system which under the circumstances was indeed grand and noble as it gave equal chances to the rich and poor, for receiving a good education, and as all could attend these schools without doing violence to their conscience.

But when Catholics settled in those parts and in the course of years, became numerous, circumstances were changed. Catholics were not free to attend these schools and accordingly they protested against being taxed for their support. They demanded their money to erect schools of their own. To this demand the State would not accede but thinking to satisfy all parties it expelled all religion from the schools and made them *purely secular*. This then is the present condition of our public schools which we maintain is as false and dangerous

as it is unchristian.

In the first place this system is based on the very false principle that education and religion have no necessary connection; that, in order to make good Christians and good citizens, we need not teach religion in the schools; that children can get all the religion they need from their parents and the Sunday Schools; in a word, that our public schools must be neutral. Very fine principles indeed. But what then is education? Is it not the formation of the heart, the moulding of character, the directing of the will and the beautifying and elevating of the soul as well as the training of the intellect? And how can all this be acquired unless moral and religious lessons form a part of the daily exercises at school? Religion indeed is natural in this much that man cannot altogether ignore God, but not in this sense that the true knowledge of God and our duties to him will come to us without our co-operation. Man is prone to evil and unless his bad inclinations are counteracted by continual moral lessons, he soon forgets his duties towards God and his neighbor. And again: schools must be neutral. But has not experience shown that schools cannot be neutral? that from the moment they are not christian, they become decidedly anti-christian? Religion is so universal and all pervading that, outside of the very rudiments of any branch of learning, there can be no purely secular schooling. For instance, how can Philosophy and history, those two noblest studies of a thinking mind, be taught unless in connection with God and laws of morality. God, religion, is the great principle that enters into all things and it follows that from the moment we try to ignore that great principle we fall deep into error.

But we need not go to so much trouble to prove that the public school system is founded upon false principles, principles altogether unchristian and pernicious to the welfare of the nation. We may always safely judge a tree by its fruit, an educational institution by the men it produces, and in the case under question there is no reason for any fear of being mistaken as the great mass of Our American people have been educated in public schools and are exactly what the public schools have made them.

What then, do we notice in our American people?—That the old love and reverence for religion and morality is fast disappearing, and that infidelity under its many different forms is fast increasing: that religion is not, as in former days, a living principle which influences on the character, the heart, the every action of a man; that, on the contrary, people treat it as Sunday clothes which they take off whenever they have any dirty piece of work to do; that, the *summum bonum* is the mighty Dollar; that Money is the measure of honor and respectability; that if a man possesses money, no matter

how he came by it, he is respected and the law seems to make an allowance for him.—Rationalists and materialists may call this progress, civilization, but facts of experience are there to prove the contrary. It was just such a civilization, such a progress, that led Greece and Rome to their downfall.

I cannot help bringing under your notice a little incident which will speak for itself. Some months ago I was reading in some news-paper that of all the letters of condolence received by Mrs. Logan at the sad occasion of her husband's death, letters coming from Senators and Representatives, the head men of the nation, only two mentioned the name of the Deity. The paper added that some few years ago such a thing would have been considered an unpardonable forgetfulness on the part of the writer, because no such letter could be complete without some consoling allusions to God, who is the judge beyond the grave.—

It is on such occasions as this that we can see most plainly the natural expression of men's ideas. Of course we cannot conclude that all these men are infidels; but we can plainly see what is their idea of God, as effected by our educational system. They have been taught, from their childhood, to consider God somewhat as the unknowable, who can be adored under any form with equal merit. They have also been taught that the great work of salvation, for which Christians believe life was given us, is altogether a private concern between each individual and his maker, and that it is policy, and a mark of good breeding never to make allusion to God or religion for fear of offending those who profess not to believe in such *nonsense*. These are some of the results of our neutral system of schools. Not many years ago, to be an infidel was considered a crime and no one dared uphold infidel doctrines for fear of violence. Now we see men acquiring great wealth and wide-spread notoriety by preaching infidelity, atheism and other such fatal systems. And we hear, on all sides, the question "Whither are we drifting?" If we may rely upon the old axiom, that like causes produce like effects we need but cast a glance on the pages of history and we read there our answer in bold letters.

But the school question is of late assuming a new aspect. Catholics after sounding the alarm and giving timely warning of the results that must inevitably follow from such a condition of things, withdrew from the field and built schools of their own. Now American Protestants have entered the list. They have at last opened their eyes to the fact that the free schools, besides being unfair to Catholics, are exercising a demoralizing influence on our American youth. They had, indeed, made a mistake but they have the moral courage of coming forward and retracting. Gradually, their best men are coming over to the Catholic idea of education.

And why should they not? Are they not with us adorers of the same God, followers of the same Christ? Why not, then, defend, each in his own way, the standard of the cross against the attacks of infidelity? Why not forget our little enmities, as becomes Christians, and make common cause against the "Godless schools?" Thus might we yet bring about the Christian system of education, and thereby dispell the clouds that are fast growing thick and obscuring the bright sun of our nation's progress.

Whatever course Protestants and nominal Christians may take, our mode of action is plainly traced. Christian education we must and shall have. We may have many difficulties to encounter but we will encounter them cheerfully, resting in the justice of our cause and our consciousness of right.—Already the work is nobly begun, and Catholic educational institutions are springing up as by magic. We have now as many as 90 colleges, over 600 academies, and nearly 3,000 parochial schools, which are training over 500,000 pupils, at the same time in learning and the fear of the Lord. Let us continue our great work with the assurance that before long all true Americans, after the examples of some of their greatest men, will thank the Catholic Church which has preserved in America to the present day, a system of schools true to the theory of education upon which our fathers founded the public schools of the nation, and which have been so madly perverted

A. L. G.

LOCALS.

- Spring (ye) chickens!
- Nosegays in profusion!
- Ordination very soon.
- In the Victorian parlance it's put thus "Dont you shame?"
- The punny Cleary has a decided relish for barbwire pie, tis said.
- Base ball is experiencing the ups and downs of life.
- Is any one possessed of such intuitive as to possibly discover the reason why Don Juan More left the infirmary?
- It is with regret we announce the death of our classmate, Alphonse Marcotte, who had been for some weeks very low with consumption. He died at his home on the 17th. of May, after receiving the sacraments. May his soul rest in peace.
- When a lamb runs into, or frisks about a harbour, there is danger of the latter's being plunged into, is there not Shortie?
- Peedie has lately taken to meditating as to whether or no he shall take into himself another year of latin.

— The guests at Mr. Dore's table remark that Vic., their waiter, does not appear, as others of our genus, subject to the changes of time. They say that they can always readily recognize him on his occasional visit at their end of the dining hall. He always leaves them *à la cataline* with "I will return!"

— Mons. Roach does the "Dead Man's Float" with wondrous grace and ease. Exhibitions of various swimming feats every Thursday afternoon at Rocky Beach.

— The second competition for prizes is now passing. The next and third will be the last. "Make hay while the sun shines."

— The Band played the funeral march remarkably well last Friday.

— Rev. M. J. Marsile C. S. V. went to St. Anne last Thursday to give a mission at Rev. Z. Berard's church.

— Solemn vespers were chanted last Thursday evening with Rev. M. A. Dooling C. S. V. Celebrant, Rev. Chas. Peborde D. D., Deacon, Rev. A. McGavick, Sub-Deacon, and Messrs. J. Dore and J. Brouillard chanters. The orchestra accompanied the singing of the psalms and hymns. A beautiful Ave Maria by Lambillotte was rendered by Rev. E. L. Rivard C. S. V. and Rev. E. Therien.

— Stopp that music!!

— Billie Tynan is master of such a perplexing combination of curves that Cecil's men all invariably fan out. Lately they tried to bribe the well-known umpire E. McDonald. "What will be their next dodge?" asks Willie.

— L'Enfant Moses after a few day's lay-off in the infirmary again illumines the senior campus with his good-humored smile.

— "Got any milk?"—No.

— "Got any pie?"—No.

— "Got anything to eat?"—Yes I have some bread but I haven't any butter.

— E. Fox, of St. Louis, arrived on the 29th. ult., and enlisted in the Junior's ranks.

— A new play entitled "A Midnight Escapade" of 2000 lines, was lately rendered with quite a sensation by the Griffin Co.

— Sam is the originator of a new literary style—the Hoops-tony-an!

— Wm. Prendergast, of the Junior yard, was recently called upon by a committee of the minim's side to umpire a game of base ball and pronounce especially on the validity and licitness of curves and balks... He came to tea—unhurt.

— Gus's head is aching from the strain given it during the preparation for the last competition. Surely, not every one in the study-hall can say as much as he, in that respect.

— The young boys of the college will make their

first communion on the day of Pentecost. They are preparing themselves in recollection for that great moment, the greatest of their life. Happy children, may you ever cherish the remembrance of the burning desires which now delight your souls.

— "Tim" is one of the relishers (?) of book-keeping. Indeed, he would fall in love with it, if some of his "classical" friends did not keep repeating to him the beauties of a Virgil or of a Cicero.

— One of a crowd:—"When was Shakespeare born?"—Dude:—"He was'nt born at all; he was a self-made man!"

— There is talk of a "dark horse" in the contest for the History Medal. Beware, ye competitors!

— Decoration day is anxiously awaited. It will be a pause and a rest for the fevered brains of the hard-working students.

— Rev. Bro. Senecal C. S. V. lately returning from Chicago, tells us he met our little friends the Evrard boys both busily employed as office boys. George, remembered among the Juniors as "Uncle," is at the Grand Pacific Hotel, and Willie at the Tribune office.

BOOKS ETC.

LETTERS FROM THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS BY REV. J. A. ZAHM C. S. C.

This pamphlet, written in the form of letters, does not pretend to be an exhaustive work on this subject but is rather, as the author says, "a *souvenir* of a portion of a pleasantly spent vacation and nothing more." Yet, between the covers, there may be found a fund of information concerning the climate, nature, history, and political, social and educational progress of these comparatively unknown islands not easily within the reach of the general reading public. For, besides that many of the books written are difficult to obtain, or are entirely out of print, there are no other sources of information open to us than an occasional newspaper article, or perhaps, a contribution to some of our numerous magazines. Coming before the public at a time when the queen of these islands is visiting this country, the Rev'd professor's letters cannot fail to catch the popular attention.

Donahoe's Magazine for June contains interesting articles on Irish Schools, Foreign Travel, Cardinal Gibbon's plea for the Knights of Labor, a paper by W. J. Onahan of Chicago vindicating a patriot Shields who was somewhat severely criticized in the *Century*. The juvenile department contains a pleasing variety of instructive and amusing collections.

The *American Magazine* for May, besides continued

stories, contains an especially interesting article on "Literary life in Boston." This sketch gives the history of the principle literary societies—The Saturday Club, birthplace of the *Atlantic Monthly*, the Thursday Evening Club, the Round Table, the Tavern Club, the St. Botolph Club, the Old Corner Book Store, and other resorts which were the rendezvous, for poets, novelists, painters, sculptors, musicians, actors and all interested in art or letters. There are portraits of Francis Parkman (frontispiece), of James Russel Lowell, Louis Chandler Moulton, John Fisk, Sara Orne Jewett, John Boyle O'Reilly, Thomas Wentworth Higginson, George Makepeace Towel, William Dean Howell, O. W. Holmes, Thomas Bailey Aldrich, Henry Bernard Carpenter, with other illustrations of a quaint and interesting nature. "Is it a crime to own Land," by John Philip Phillips, is an essay well worth reading. "Some experience as an Author" by J. T. Trowbridge, "General Grant's habits," and several other short papers of diversified tone are other items of the *Magazine's* relishable menu.

We have also upon our table the unassuming but lively little *Library Magazine*, *Blackwood Magazine*, and, as some of our juvenile readers are often heard call them, "the dandy *St. Nicholas*" and "the funny *Gaskell's Magazine*," *La Revue Canadienne*, *Le Français*, and many others.

ELOCUTION

There are in the scholastic year as in a great desert a certain number of oases in which we pause on our journey sometimes for a whole day, more frequently for an afternoon, and occasionally for an evening. This rest is generally accompanied by amusements of some kind, lighter literary, dramatic, or sportive.

We spent an evening in one of those grassy greens Tuesday the 10th. inst., and this time we combined business with pleasure of a literary character: it was the evening set apart for the elocutionary contest for the Hagan elocution medal. The spirits of aspirants beat high about half-past seven when the judges, Rev. Fr. Halbmeier, of Kankakee, Rev. C. Peborde D. D. and Rev. J. Daly, of the college, entered the hall accompanied by the Rev. Faculty. The band played a lively overture after which the following programme was rendered: "Gracie's Passie," Master Harry Culver of La Fayette, Ind.; "The Music Box," Louis Grandchamp, Alpena, Mich.; "Chieftain's Daughter," M. L. Conlan, Chicago, Ill.; "The Polish Boy," Wm. Prendergast, Chicago, Ill.; "The Sailer Boy's Dream," Frank Moran, Cleveland, Ohio; "Belshassar," Hiram Lingle, La Fayette, Ind.; "The Charcoal-Man," Julius Rivard, Bourbonnais, Ill.; "The Soldier's Pardon," J. J. O'Callaghan, Chicago, Ill.; "Corns," Eddie Collette, Du Pré,

Wis.; "The Drummer Boy," Andrew Kerr, Kankakee, Ill.; "The Irish Aliens," Wm. Deering, Chicago, Ill.; "Wolsey to Cromwell," T. J. Lyons, St. Louis, Mo.; "The Maniac," Dennis Carroll, Chicago, Ill.

The entertainment was most relishable in every respect. The speeches were very carefully selected, making an agreeable variety of the comic and the serious. We noticed among the competitors a few familiar faces who had entered for a second race, but for nearly all it was their first appearance. A noticeable feature was the number of minors who spoke, and it was no "sing-song" with them either. There is among these younger students a decided talent for elocution which will with the proper practice make as many excellent speakers. We thank the young gentlemen for their splendid entertainment and hope that they will fully develop the precious talent of which they have given unmistakable evidence.

WHAT WE SEE ON NEWSPAPERS.

In this short essay, I evidently do not propose to enumerate specifically all the facts, incidents and events, all the theories, views and speculations, that daily and hourly find their way into the thousands of newspapers. My intention is merely to look at the newspaper in a kind of general way and present to you a few ideas, which the things therein suggest.

To handle the subject more nearly, let us take up some great popular daily, say the Chicago or London Times. Look through all its pages. Scan the innumerable headings and titles that dot its columns. The first thought that strikes us is the wonderful variety of subjects treated. Here a beautiful poem, there a scientific view of earthquakes; one column is devoted to matters of religion and morality, and side by side with it, another publishes to the world; to young and to old, the most filthy and scandalous facts that disgrace the chronicles of man's doings—encouragement to those, already old in crime, and a blight upon the souls of the good and pure. One page is taken up with great questions of political economy, with international wrangling and disputing, with battles and sieges, treaties and conventions, in which the whole world is interested, and lo! the next records perhaps a cockfight or the straying away of some fair lady's poodle dog. Naturally, we exclaim, what a variety! There is no subject untouched, no department of knowledge or information which is not intrenched upon.

The news-writer is everywhere; and anything of interest to the public, whether it be the falling of an empire or the tumbling of a fat man on a slippery sidewalk, he jots down with the same avidity and hurries it on before him for publication. Art, science, philosophy,

literature, religion, politics, history, every species of thing which comes under the general title of information and which would tend, in any way, to utility, pleasure, or even satisfying idle curiosity,—all this is included in the field of the newsman's operations. No wonder then that in our great London or Chicago daily there is such a variety of subject-matter and such intermixture of facts and views and theories which have no relation whatever to one another, save that of time.

Another thought, which to the dullest cannot fail to present itself, and which touches upon the real excellence and usefulness of the newspaper, is that it exhibits to us a picture or image, if we can so express ourselves, of the doings and workings of the whole world, a view of the life and energy, the change and growth of nations and man and things. These pictures or images, though each day attractive and full of interest, are, like the landscape the traveler views, ever varied, never the same. One is bright with the sunlight of happiness, prosperity and progress, another dark with the heavy storm-clouds of war and disaster, and yet another enveloped with the sickly glare of wide-spread pestilence and plagues. In one may be seen, standing out in bold relief, a field streaming red with fresh warm human blood, and far beyond a throne toppling to the earth amid the sighs and groans of a ruined nation; in the next, perhaps the sunlight of heaven beams down upon a glad and joyous people, reverently knelt in humble thanksgiving to God for the blessings he has never ceased to shower upon their beloved country. This picture is tinged with sorrow; that one with joy, and here is another full of joy and sorrow, hope and despair, prosperity and disaster.

Let us examine, more particularly, one of these pictures. Here is a large and beautiful one, belonging to our own present time. You can discern in it the outlines of States and Countries; nay, you can even distinguish persons and things. Behold America, the land of freedom and liberty, rejoicing in the midst of blessings and prosperity, made doubly blessed by peace and contentment. All are rushing forward, hurrying on in the busy path of progress, yet, in the music and harmony of their march, one discordant note is heard; it is Henry George proclaiming to an intelligent world that man cannot own land and that the Catholic Church, that grand institution, the work of a divine hand, is all a sham. Look to Europe; dark clouds appear on the horizon: rumors of war are whispered about. France and Germany are daily increasing their armies and are hourly inventing new weapons for the destruction of human life.

Spain has just quieted down from the excitement of a few days ago over the disappearance of the Crown Prince. Ireland, the enchained captive, stands waiting

and watching for her deliverance. Gladstone treats the world to a beautiful essay on Tennyson's *Lockley Hall Sixty Years After*, and realizes more from his few pages of praise than the aged Laureate does from his studied poem.

Russia stands at bay, like a lion, watching for an opportunity to pounce upon her coveted victim—Turkey.

But ah! look here! There, away in the Celestial Empire, see the first streams of human blood. Look well to it. The pure innocent blood of a thousand martyred Christians, a thousand martyred Catholics, cries to Heaven for vengeance. And have the days of Pagan Rome returned, and does Nero indeed sit once more enthroned? It would seem so. But hold; you see, amid the darkness and silence of night, yon locomotive with its breath of fire dashing wildly and swift as the mind along its iron way. Suddenly a crash is heard and that rushing train, with its hundred men, women and children, are heaped into one great shapeless mass. Oh God! the sight I cannot describe; my pen shrinks from it. One individual I have watched with special interest. Held fast between two timbers, his limbs broken and distorted and the scorching flames already slowly consuming him, he is suddenly released and torn from the grasp of death by a feat of bravery and heroism which would have done honor to Achilles. They carry him to a neighboring house, call physicians, but to no purpose; the man is dying. Tarry a moment. He regains his senses; soon he has health and strength. Learn, oh men! the potency of Hood's Sarsaparella. It's the only cure for burns, scalds, and wounds.

Telegrams from the North Pole state that the Esquimaux are yet alive. Things indicate that Austria will join Germany in case of war between that country and France.

But then, let us not wander off so far. Say we examine something nearer home. The *College Journal* records startling intelligence. As soon as an unwary lad makes a break, they have him on the list. The victim may be seen stalking about searching for the offender threatening to waylay the fellow who thus painted him in the "Locals."

This then is a brief sketch of some of the pictures which daily publications present. We cannot therefore say but that newspapers are certainly good and useful and serve a good end. The only great objection that can be made against them is that they too often bring to light facts which it were better to have left in darkness. Scandalous news does nobody good, but many harm. Nevertheless they are the only means we have of knowing what is going on about us: and without it the world would be dark indeed.

J. Mc. 2nd. Rhetoric.

IN MEMORIAM.

Again has Death sad, but eloquent been in our midst.

But a few months ago, when last visited by its dark shades we had deemed its mission a good lesson.

However, it has pleased Providence that another be taken from our ranks, and death's summon fell to our lamented companion Alphonse Marcotte.

Although it is in tears that we in our ascending prayers bid him a fond farewell, yet there cannot but mingle in our thoughts a feeling of Solemn joy, when we reflect on his happy death and readiness to meet his Maker.

The deceased was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Mose Marcotte, of Bourbonnais; was seventeen years old, of a pleasing, cheerful disposition, and apparently healthy; but the germ of consumption had set in, and during a few short months he began to fade away, till at last he was at the point of death.

Tuesday evening, at May devotions, Rev. Fr. Marsile announced the approaching death of our companion.

Wednesday morning early, the village church bell rang out in solemn tones the "curfew of his soul."

Death had come during the night about the hour of eleven, and departed with its prize.

The funeral which took place Friday morning, the 20th inst., proceeded from the home of the deceased to the college, and here in the front hall, the remains were placed that his companions might pay him some tribute of love and grateful remembrance ere he would be led to the silent grave.

A crown of flowers was placed over the dead, and amidst prayers and tears the coffin was thence borne to the Parish church followed by the parents, brothers, sisters, relatives and fellow students of the beloved departed.

Rev. Fr. Mainville and Bro. Lauzon chanted the requiem hymns. The church and also the front hall of the college were heavily draped. After the solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated for the benefit of the departed soul, the funeral proceeded to the village cemetery where now rests cold and low the body of Alphonse Marcotte. Rev. Fr. Beaudoin officiated at the Mass, and Bro. Lauzon lead the choir. The pall bearers were Messrs. Arthur Lesage, Philip Houde, John Belton, Thomas Maloney, Charles Knisely and Justin Ricou.

In this fair month of May when every where we see beauteous gifts spread about us, and when we listen to the sweet calm song of nature in its evening repose, let us think of our departed friend and companion.

His death was sad indeed. Young, talented and verging into manhood, he was a fair flower in the garden of human souls; but as the loveliest roses and lilies are

always plucked first, so in preference to many others, God called him bright and beautiful, to his Heavenly home where we hope and in truth sincerely believe he rests to-day.

We heartily condole with the bereaved parents, to whom he was so dear; and with the relatives, by whom he was fondly cherished; and to all, in this the saddest trial with which God afflicts his chosen ones, we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

HOLY NAME SCHOOL
 ROLL OF HONOR.
 COMMERCIAL COURSE.

J. O'Connor. }
 P. Minogue. }Gold Medal.

CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE MEDAL.

M. McDonald, J. Lynch, E. Mohan, F. Walsh, E. Kennelly, F. O'Hara, J. Fitzpatrick, M. Marley J. O'Connor, P. Minogue, J. Carney.
 DISTINGUISHED.—William Lawler.

EIGHTH GRADE.

Silver Medal—F. Healey, R. Gavin, F. Donahue, J. Sheridan, A. Nash, J. McHugh, E. Smith, P. McNalley.
 DISTINGUISHED. D. McDonald, H. Vercooter.

SIXTH GRADE.

SILVER MEDAL.....Dennis Carroll.
 DISTINGUISHED.—William Walsh, Michael Gleason.

FOURTH GRADE.

SILVER MEDAL.....John Reynold.
 DISTINGUISHED.—W. Clark, J. Tierney.

THIRD GRADE.

DISTINGUISHED.—W. O'Brien, F. Curran, W. Coleman, T. O'Beirne, P. Murray, W. Hereley, A. Carroll, J. Maloney, J. Sheridan, J. Coyne.

SECOND GRADE.

Austin McDonough.....Silver Medal.
 DISTINGUISHED.—J. Cannon, T. Harper, C. Hayes.

FIRST GRADE,

DISTINGUISHED.—J. Coyne, P. Brophy, T. Doyle.
 PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

Silver Medal.....J. Monahan
 DISTINGUISHED.—J. O'Halloran, J. Burke, T. Carroll, R. Curran, J. Tormey, G. Coyne, E. Kelly.

ROLL OF HONOR.
 LATIN COURSE

J. McGavick.....Gold Medal.
 S. Saindon.....1st. Silver Medal.

John O'Callaghan.....2nd. " "

DISTINGUISHED—V. Lamarre, L. Fally, J. Ricou, T. Normoyle, L. Grandchamp, Wm. Convey, J. Cleary, F. Dandurand, P. Granger, R. Fitzgerald, D. Cahill, H. Lingle.

COMMERCIAL COURSE.

M. Conlan.....Gold Medal.
 J. Bennett.....1st. Silver Medal.
 E. Bennett.....2nd. " "

DISTINGUISHED—W. Tynan, J. Duffy, W. Prendergast, T. Burns, L. Walsh, A. Lesage, J. Rivard, H. Culver, J. Friedman, T. Logris, G. Healy, M. Fortin, E. Collet, J. Belton, F. Ehrich, W. Stafford, J. Barry, G. Graveline.

GUILFOYLE COMPOSITION MEDAL.

J. Bennett.....Gold Medal.
 DISTINGUISHED—S. Saindon, T. Normoyle, J. McGavick.

COMWAY MEDAL.

John O'Callaghan.....Gold Medal.

SENIOR DEPARTMENT.

P. Saffer.....Conduct Medal.
 M. Rosenthal.....Politeness Medal.
 DISTINGUISHED—R. Fitzgerald, P. Granger, J. Suarth, L. Grandchamp.

JUNIOR DEPARTMENT.

DISTINGUISHED—V. Cyrier, W. Lehman, M. Fortin, E. Fraser.

MINIM'S DEPARTMENT.

DISTINGUISHED—L. Falley, V. Lamarre, G. Mallory, E. Smith.

SPORTIVE.

Shamrocks to the front!

Stafford's nine won one game at last. Poor Will. has hard luck with his men.

The C. S. V. League for some reason unknown, decided to discontinue league game. The standing at the close was: two games won and two lost for each of the clubs.

The minims have some well contested games on their grounds. Lamarre, Tierney and Tynan will undoubtedly develop into very good players.

The Shamrocks have appeared twice on the campus and each time gave a good exhibition of ball playing.

The Kankakee Browns put the same nine in the field this year as last. We are waiting for them.

Since the hot weather has reached us, the river seems more enjoyable than the diamond.

As swimming is so much enjoyed by all, why not all of us take a few hours and remove a few of those stones from that part of the river near the cave? The only objection to swimming there is the difficulty of walking out to deep water over those sharp rocks.

At a meeting held May 8th. the first nine of the house, which will henceforward be known as the Shamrocks, was formed. Rev. E. L. Rivard C. S. V. was unanimously chosen President and Manager; Mr. Sullivan, Field Capt.; Mr. Ed. Bennett, Sec.; and Mr. Roach, Treas. Mr. Burns was appointed Umpire and Mr. Ball Official scorer. After a little minor business the following nine was presented and received; Sullivan C.—McGavick P.—O'Neil 1B.—Roach 2B.—Bennett 3B.—Cusack S. S.—Dore L. F.—Legris C. F.—Cleary R. F.—Walsh Sub.

The team that is mentioned above, starts out with the best wishes of success from everybody. They may not be as strong a combination as last year, but that remains to be seen. As far as batting is concerned we can safely say they are superior and with a little practice they will do as well in the field. All that is necessary is confidence and hard work. With these requisites we trust that the shamrocks will add victory upon victory to the chains won in former years by the College Nine.

PERSONALS.

Clifford—We had the pleasure of meeting P. Clifford, '83, who came the other day to visit his alma mater. He is now occupied, in the capacity of a lawyer, by the Pennsylvania and Ohio R. R. He enjoys good health and seems well pleased with his position in life. He was surprised to find so many changes in the college and so very few of the students of his time. Pat. enjoyed himself however as nicely as of old with the few of his classmates who still remain in St. Viateur's.

McAuliffe—Owing to informations given us by Clifford we are enabled to give the following details concerning Florence McAuliffe, '84. He is engaged in the same office as Prof. Murphy, working for the C. B. & Q. R. R., Chicago. He preserves his natural good humor and finds time to enjoy a good laugh once in a while at anything but his own expense.

Toomey—Through forgetfulness we failed to notice sooner the removal of father Toomey, '84, from the church of All Saints to that of St. Columbkil, Chicago. We wish him continued happiness in the new field of his labors.

Concannon—James Concannon, '84, is now employed as telegraph operator at Grand Crossing, on the way to Chicago. Success to the Campaigner.

Rivard—Alexius Rivard, '85, of the Grove, is now visiting in Manitoba. This trip to the salubrious climes of the North West will no doubt invigorate him. When at

home, "Leblanc" busies himself with superintending the works of the farm left to him by his father a few years ago.

Walsh—Krisman—Father Marsile spent the Sunday of May 15th. in Dwight, where he had the pleasure of meeting Nick Walsh, '76, and Henry Krisman, '80, both of whom are healthy and successful in their occupations. Nick was accompanied by his wife and two blooming children, an unmistakable evidence of prosperity and happiness. It is always a source of pleasure for us to hear of such good news from the part of former students of our college.

Bradley—We hear that William Bradley, '82, is now doing successful work in Peoria in the line of Journalism. Father Shannon, '86, met him in that city not long ago sporting a "plug hat" in grand style. The young man intends giving us a call by commencement, we are told. Welcome!

Morrissey—O'Day—Mr. John Morrissey, '84, and William O'Day, '86, are pursuing their respective studies in Niagara. We notice the latter's name in the Index in connection with some Base Ball club.

Brosseau—By the latest news Fred. Brosseau, '86, has been promoted to the Bank of Highmore, Highmore, Dakota. He is well pleased with his new position though it requires a great deal of labor. He inquires about the graduates of '87, and remembers the arduous task of the graduates of '86.

Rassette—We learn from his mother now visiting here that Levi Rassette, '77, is now organist in the new parish of Father Goulet, in Pullman, Ill.

EXCHANGES.

"Critique" in the *North-Western Chronicle* reflects great credit on the author. The criticism is not less beautiful and tasty than the exquisite poem which is criticized.

The Investigator from the Dixon Normal School saunters into our sanctum replete with local news and advertisements. There is little to interest the outsider; your paper would be greatly improved by more literary matter.

The Student, of Cumberland University, is a welcome visitor in its terra-cotta dress. The make-up of this paper, in all its departments, is really praiseworthy. It always contains a number of interesting articles which never fail to please.

It is with genuine pleasure that we look over the pages of the *Notre Dame Scholastic* as it comes to hand every Monday morning. The pages of this almost Magazine contain rare literary gems in profusion, and the other departments reflect great credit on their respective editors. We would suggest to the *Scholastic* a reg-

ular exchange column, it would add much to your relishableness.

"Edmund Burke" in the current number of the *Kalamazoo College Index*, is a well enough written article, what there is of it, but don't you think Mr. Author (without suggesting that you should write an encyclopedia) that a great deal more might have been said about this eminent writer and speaker? What about his "Vindication of Natural Society," "The Letters on the Regicide Peace," and have you forgotten the *Reflections on the Revolution in France* which elicited from Schlegel the well deserved encomium: "He corrected his age, when it was at the height of its revolutionary frenzy; and without maintaining any system of philosophy, he seems to have seen farther into the true nature of society, and to have more clearly comprehended the effect of religion in connecting individual security with national welfare, than any philosopher or any system of philosophy in any succeeding age."

Few of our exchanges give us more pleasure than the *Kunkel's Musical Review*. In addition to many *morceaux*, which our "musical editor pronounces excellent, this magazine is replete with some rare literary selections. The editorials in the May number were especially relishable, and we would recommend the article on *Orchestral Pianissimos on Stringed Instruments*" to all pupils of those instruments. Unhappily the neglect of shading is frequently apparent in orchestral executions. Color and shade are just as important to the orchestra as to the stage. What would we think of an actor who would torture our ears during a whole performance with a "mournful monotone?" Shading is precisely as important in a musical performance: and nothing is more provoking than to attend a concert when the musicians plunge headlong into a composition, playing the notes and keeping time perhaps, but never seeking to discover the spirit of the piece or even to mind the *signs*.

Though the *Catholic American News* has been from the start an excellent paper, it will hardly be bad grammar to say that it is getting more so every day. It is a pushing paper. It is alive, wide-awake, full of freshness, fresh—newsy, and, in its judgements upon men and things well-balanced. We like a Catholic paper of this type. It is the favorite of the reading room along with its Eastern companion the *Boston Pilot* and our nearer friend the *St. Louis Catholic World*.

What the *St. Louis Catholic World* does not notice in its weekly rounds cannot be of much importance. The editor gleans extensively from the foreign press. The matter, however, heterogenous as it necessarily is, appears always well digested. We hesitate not to affirm that this is one of our standard catholic publications, excellent both in tone, style, and matter.

CATHOLIC NOTES.

Last Thursday we celebrated the beautiful feast of the Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven.

There are 500 convents of Mercy in the world, occupied by nearly 10,000 religious.

The University of Louvain, Belgium, was founded by Pope Martin V four hundred years ago.

Bishop Ireland was met in New York, on his arrival from Europe, by a committee of the Total Abstinence Union of America.

Archbishop Leray of New Orleans is about to leave for a trip to Europe on business as well as for the benefit of his impaired health.

After a protracted consideration of the case the representatives of the Province of Quebec adopted the Bill incorporating the Jesuits. This gives the Society the right to possess, to receive, to inherit. It is now on the footing of other religious societies in Canada.

The papers mention the death, in London, of James Grant, an author of historical romances, among others: "Highlanders in Spain," "Highlanders in Belgium," "Bothwell; or, the Days of Mary Queen of Scots," "Lucy Ardon," and "The Master of Aberfeldie." Mr. Grant abjured Protestantism in 1875 and was received in the Catholic Church by the Cardinal archbishop of Westminster.

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Borgess of Detroit has resigned his see on account of old age. His career of 17 years has been an arduous one considering the many difficulties he encountered in the exercise of his authority. The Prelate was born in Oldenburg, Germany, 1826, and came to this country when only 13 years of age. He is a graduate of St. Xavier's College, Cincinnati.

There is a rumor that the Rev. Dr. Chapelle, pastor of St. Matthew's Church, Washington, will be made co-adjutor of Archbishop Leray of New Orleans. The Rev. Gentleman is one of the Trustees of the Catholic University and has a reputation of high culture and varied learning.

"A congress of English-speaking Roman Catholics will meet in London shortly to discuss religious progress, labor and capital, temperance, theft, and other subjects. It is expected that American Prelates will attend. Cardinal Manning is the leading spirit in the movement."

It is consoling and refreshing to meet with such an humble apology as that made by Michael Davitt for the "heated words" he had spoken in New York concerning Cardinal Simeoni's relations to the Land League and Dr. McGlym. Prior Glynn, lately arrived in this country from Rome, has furnished us the exemplary retraction of Davitt.

A true spirit of Christian Charity seems to be bud-

ding forth in our Catholic laymen. The rich should never forget on their death-beds the needs of the poor, of the Church, of Education. The late Mr. Tully, of Boston, has left over \$90,000 in such good works as we have just mentioned. How many prayers will rise to Heaven for his soul's repose in return for that generosity!

The English Catholics intend to present the Pope with a collection of all the Catholic books published in the English language in the last 50 years, at the occasion of his Jubilee. This is indeed a luminous idea. The period thus covered would include the revival of Catholicism in Great Britain, it would form an interesting library.

Cardinal Gibbons spent a few days in France visiting the Catholic Clubs of Workingmen as organized by Comte Albert de Mun and Mgr. Freppel. There are now 500 of these clubs in operation and giving the best satisfaction. The bosses and the men all meet to discuss wages and other matters in a most friendly manner. They buy food, clothing, medicine, etc., on the principles of co-operative stores. They are entirely Christian.

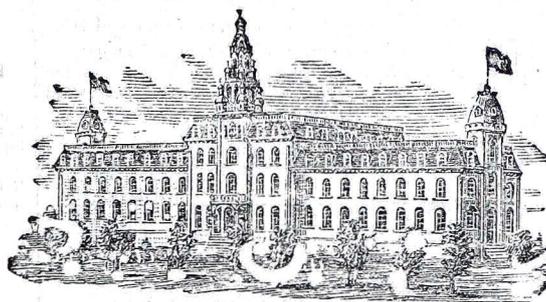
We often stop to think if it is not an injustice than to call America a Protestant country. The population of the United States is about 58,000,000, that of Canada, 5,000,000; and that of South America, 45,500,000. The Population of the two Americas then, in round numbers, is 108,000,000. Now, we can not count any protestants in South America. In North America we count 12,000,000 Catholics. So after comparing, we find a majority of 6,000,000 Catholics on this side of the Atlantic. Can we call America a Protestant country? . . .

The Catholic young Men's National Union will hold its annual Convention in New York by the end of this month. The motive of this Union is to consolidate and strengthen the Catholic youth's influence in Society, in business, in all undertakings. Papers will be read on the following subjects at the coming reunion:

1. Some reasons why the Catholic societies raise the standard of American citizenship.
2. The founders of our republic; how were they educated.
3. How should young men oppose intemperance?
4. Opportunities—How they are neglected, and how they may be put to practical use, especially in acquiring an education.
5. Models for Catholic laymen—O'Connell, Gorres, Ozanam, Brownson.
6. Home life in large cities.
7. How much time can young men give to literary culture in the societies of the union?

This Programme speaks for itself and we can be certain of the good that such a society undoubtedly operates among young men.

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