

tion." Unfortunately, there are a few statements which we cannot allow to pass unchallenged. In one place the writer says that the pilgrim curés "rushed wildly about" in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. This, as every Catholic knows, is absolutely improbable. Then, again, he states that there were some priests at Lourdes "whose retreat was an ecclesiastical punishment." The very idea of a priest being punished in such a manner is ridiculous.

EXCHANGES.

The ex-man of the *Villanova Monthly* is somewhat hypercritical. Will he please inform us who publishes the Owl, if not the students of Ottawa University.

The *University Courier* is regular in its visits to our sanctum. The wit and humor with which it abounds is not mere buffoonery and slang, but is sparkling and elevated.

The *Niagara Rainbow*, of Loretto Academy, Niagara Falls, is just making its debut on the stage of college journalism. Its first number is very promising. We were much pleased with the article entitled "The Music of the Mass," by Rev. Henry A. Brand, D.D., Rector of St. Agnes' Church, New York.

"The Trend of Modern Thought" in the *Geneva Cabinet* is a production of no mean merit. Its author points out without fear or hesitation the weak point in the American social order. He says: "The present easy and secret means of separation make the bond of marriage as one of clay, broken at will, and for the slightest reason. In our own enlightened land the rate of increase of divorces is three times the rate of increase in population. This means more homes destroyed, a larger portion of society corrupted, a greater impetus given to the force by which the true foundation of the state is undermined."

The *Georgetown College Journal* is filled with the speeches delivered at a banquet given by the Alumni of Georgetown

University. Those of the speeches we read are good, exceptionally so. However, we should prefer to see in the *Journal* more original work by the student body proper.

SOCIETIES.

The meeting room of the Senior Debating Society was the scene of a very exciting debate when the subject "Resolved that a republican form of government is better suited to the wants of modern society than a monarchical form," was discussed. The supporters of the republic were: Messrs. A. Burke and A. Barrett. Messrs. A. Bedard and G. Leyden extolled the merits of the monarchical form of government. The vote at the conclusion decided in favor of the negative.

A happy departure was made from the regular order of things on the evening of the 25th of Feb., when the Senior and Junior Societies assembled together for the purpose of giving an entertainment. Mr. J. Murphy, president of the Senior Society, took the chair. The new Glee Club made its first appearance and delighted all present. Among those who contributed to make the evening enjoyable were: Messrs. L. Kehoe, A. Kehoe, J. McDougall, E. O'Malley, W. Walsh, and M. McKenna. The declamations, songs and speeches were excellent.

At a meeting of the Senior Society which took place a week later, the subject under discussion was, "Resolved that the elective system is preferable to the obligatory system in the University," Messrs. Payment and Kealy showed the advantages to be derived from an elective system, while Messrs. Ryan and Prudhomme defended the system which prescribes the matters to be studied. Several speeches from the house were made, and after one of the longest debates that the society has had this year the members upheld the negative, but, by a majority of only two votes.

"Resolved that the House of Lords should be abolished," was the subject of the most spirited and enthusiastic debate that the Senior Society has had for some