

has never seen light, principally on account of lacking the means of placing it before the public. In glancing back over two decades, it is with very legitimate pride that he fails to discover any line from his pen—be it in essays, editorials, verses, pamphlets, or volumes—that is calculated to shock the feelings, or grate upon the sentiments of even the most exacting: knowing that the same characteristics mark the unpublished products of his labor, he felt that he owed it to his fellow-countrymen to no longer keep from them that which might, even in a very humble degree, prove of benefit to them."

We wish *The Pen* the fullest measure of success. May its editor meet with general and substantial encouragement from those to whom his review addresses itself.

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### ANOTHER CHAMPIONSHIP.

We are, perhaps, inclined to imagine that our championship in Canadian football comprises almost everything that is worth working for. Not at all. There are other triumphs to which we should not be blind, and to which, indeed, our eyes are fully open, for we take one into camp occasionally. These are championships in the intellectual order. Such a victory was recently won by the young Oblate students in the Gregorian University, Rome. Of the almost eleven hundred

students who follow the courses of that institution, the Oblates do not number more than fifty. There is considerable friendly rivalry among the various Colleges that compose the University when the annual competitions occur. For several years the Oblates had stood at the head of the list; a year ago, however, they were forced to yield first place. But they have quickly regained their lost laurels. The annual prize-list for 1896-97 has just come to hand. From it we learn that 30 of the most valued prizes, comprising 11 firsts and 19 seconds, were won by the Oblates. Next follow the students of the Capranic College with 16 prizes, 10 firsts and 6 seconds. The Belgians are third with 15 prizes, 9 firsts and 6 seconds. The college of St. Ambrose and St. Charles stands fourth with 11 prizes, 6 firsts and 5 seconds. The remaining prizes are scattered among a multitude of competitors.

Had THE OWL assisted at the awarding of prizes, it should have so far forgotten its dignity as to startle the Tiber with a 'Varsity cheer. As it is, we reverentially doff our mortar-board and whisper, "Do it again."

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### EDITORIAL NOTES.

Pope Leo XIII, who was then known as Father Pecci, celebrated his first mass on the first of January, 1838, and great preparations are now being made to celebrate the Diamond