torture are in use. Spies fill the cities, detectives scour the fields, informers listen to all speech public and private ; packed juries condemn : venal judges sentence ; military courts imprison civilians. There is a reign of terror from Alps to Etna, and the police, armed to the teeth, swarm everywhere, and the prisons are crowded with innocent citizens."

Although we never touch political questions nor pretend to offer our readers any solutions of the burning problems of the hour, yet we cannot but make a slight reference to the latest view of the Manitoba School difficulty, as given by Rev. Dr. Grant, Principal of Queen's University. Though not an advocate of Separate Schools, the doctor stoutly maintains that religious instruction should form part of the programme of studies in elementary schools supported by the public. Dr. Grant, while admitting that the schools of Manitoba before 1890 were far from being as proficient as they should be, gives very good reasons why this should have been the case. The country was sparsely settled, and is still so to a great extent, and the weather in winter is so severe that to this day in not a few sections the schools are closed from December to April ; yet in spite of these defects the schools (before 1890) were as well taught and managed as was possible under such circumstances. The doctor comments with considerable severity on the action of the Provincial Government in making so radical and sudden a change effected by the School Acts of 1890. The rev. professor has taken a very liberal view of the question and we await with interest, the remaining contributions to the series of letters he has but begun in the *Toronto Globe*.

When addressing his congregation recently, Rev, Dr. Alexander McKenzie, a Philadelphia Congregational minister, had no hesitation in letting his hearers know his opinion of Catholics. He said : " I am a Puritan through and through. But when I think of the increasing, self-sacrificing, persistent, steady work of the Roman Catholic Church, I am almost tempted to say that they deserve their

success. They build brick churches ; you are too mean to even build wooden chapels to worship in. If you object to Catholic Churches why don't you build Protestant churches ? You criticise the number of schools the Catholics build in the South ; will you build similar schools ? You complain of their work ; why don't you go and do likewise ? Contribute your money the way they do, send out missionaries like theirs—men who abandon everything for the cause they have adopted."

After forty years of ministerial life the venerable Oblate, Father McGrath, owing to growing infirmities, retires from the pastoral charge of the Holy Angels' Church, this city. He will remain, however, president of the College and Superior of the local community. Father McGrath's place as pastor will be taken by Father Quinn, who for upwards of two years has served as assistant in that church The prayers of many will follow Father McGrath into his semi-retirement ; and the brilliant Father Quinn will have the best wishes of numerous friends on his merited promotion—Buffalo *Catholic Union and Times*. The Father Quinn above referred to is well known to many students of Ottawa University, having for a number of years, filled a professor's chair in our class rooms, and also the office of Prefect of Discipline. THE OWL joins with Father Quinn's numerous friends in congratulations on his promotion

At the closing exercises of St. Mary's College, San Antonio, Texas, June 25th, the address of the evening was delivered by Rev. C. J. Smith, O.M.I. The subject of the address was " Benefits accruing from Christian and deeply religious education." In opening his address the Rev. father compared the system of non religious education with that of the religious, showing how the former with the world for its object trained the youth, with indifference to God, and a care only for an intellectual generation and a supposed safe Republic, while the religious system, with God for its object, civilizes, christianizes and sanctifies the youth, and prepares him to properly fulfil the