

tract him from the care of his vineyard. The returns show that in many of the elections in France not one-tenth of the electors voted and those who did vote were wheedled into line by the professional politicians of the Republic. Only in the large cities was anything like a full vote polled and here the composition of the vote was such as not to promise very satisfactory results. The consequence is that the government cannot be said to represent the people, though for this the people alone are to blame. With Italy, however, the case is different. When Victor Emmanuel despoiled Pope Pius IX, His Holiness forbade the Italian Catholics to take any active part in their national politics, lest by so doing it might be inferred that they countenanced the spoliation of the Pontiff by the Sardinian King. Just a few days ago, however, His Holiness Leo XIII removed this restriction and it is to be hoped that ere long Crispi's libel on the term 'popular government' will be swept from the face of Italy. The French people, undoubtedly still Catholic to the core, show signs of an awakening and may soon prove that they have a voice in closing monasteries and expelling religious orders. They seem to be beginning to realize that indifference, whatever it may have been once, is no longer a virtue.

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### *A CATHOLIC MEDICAL SCHOOL*

The time is near when a Catholic Medical School will be a necessity for Western Canada. Many people think, and so express themselves, that medical colleges should be undenominational, that in a medical training there is neither time nor place for religious instruction. In one sense this is very true. A man who must acquire an intimate knowledge of all the matters leading to the degree of doctor in medicine has his hands full, and will find a four year's course hardly sufficient to

prepare him for his final examination. And we would be greatly averse to heaping fresh burdens on his already overloaded shoulders by suggesting additional work. Moreover, religious instruction, strictly speaking, is foreign to a medical curriculum. But what we have a right to expect from every institution or body of men, undertaking the education of youth in any branch whatever, is that none but sound principles be taught those under its care. Are our expectations justified by the reality? We make bold to say that the principles underlying the education imparted by the medical schools of Ontario, are highly immoral and utterly subversive of social order. That they are materialistic a casual conversation with any of the many Ontario students and physicians will show; that they are immoral the daily prescriptions of resident doctors amply demonstrate. Is this a satisfactory condition of affairs? Evidently not, and the only remedy is to supplant this materialistic teaching, based, in a great measure, on ignorance of its real bearing by something more wholesome. For Catholics there is the open path of duty. Many of our young men yearly embrace the medical profession, and the number will be continually increasing. It is but one of their plain rights to be safely and surely guided in their chosen study. Catholics, who are ever so eager to act where the welfare of their children is at stake, cannot and, we feel sure, will not long hesitate. Let our leading men move; the people will approve and follow.

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### *FOR "AULD LANG SYNE."*

To make the columns of THE OWL more interesting to our alumni we intend publishing a series of class histories from the earliest available dates. To aid us in doing this we have sent to several of our old boys printed lists of classes with the