

LATIN EPITAPHS—THE LATE
MR. JOHN RYAN.

To the Editors of the Cross.

GENTLEMEN,—

I have read with much pleasure in your interesting journal the lines which have been inscribed at Frenchtown to the memory of the lamented Abbe Sigogne, and it occurred to me that you might wish to have a copy of a similar tribute which was justly paid to the memory, benevolence, piety and talents of the late Mr. Ryan a native of Halifax. Mr. John Ryan the subject of this Epitaph was the son of Mr. Patrick Ryan a merchant of this city. From his earliest years he manifested a decided vocation for the Ecclesiastical State, and the whole ambition of his life was to become a Priest that he might devote his ministry to the propagation of the Holy Catholic Faith, in this his native city and Province. These holy desires were seconded by his truly virtuous mother, who even in her widowhood made the sacrifice of her only son to God, and sent him to Europe in his tender years for the purpose of prosecuting his studies. This devout woman whose religious life is well remembered in Halifax, was never destined to meet her beloved child, at least on this side of the grave. Young Ryan was first placed in St. John's College at Waterford, where his talents and amiable disposition soon made him a universal favourite. He never forgot his native place. Halifax was constantly on his lips and in his heart, and he burned for the time when he should be enabled to return to Nova Scotia to devote his life to the spiritual welfare of his countrymen. His holy anxiety on this subject was a source of constant edification to his companions. After some years spent with great profit in the College at Waterford, Mr. Ryan went to the Eternal City to prosecute his studies in Sacred Literature. In Rome he was soon greatly distinguished for his piety and talents as the inscription on his monument testifies. But alas! in the inscrutable designs of Heaven the Church of Nova Scotia was to be deprived of the services of one of her most gifted children. His unabated thirst for study must no doubt have injured his health, and brought into fuller maturity the early seeds of decay in his constitution. God was pleased to accept the desires of his heart in place of their fulfilment, and to transplant him into a better land whilst he was yet in the flower of his age. During his last illness his tender devotion and ardent desire to be united to God, moved even to tears those who had the happiness to behold him. He died far away from the land he loved, but not in exile. In Rome, the city of the Soul, where no Catholic is a stranger, he breathed his last on the 10th of March, 1836. His Monument is erected in the Church of the Propaganda at Rome, and is I have heard the only one erected to the memory of a Student in that hallowed spot, where the Apostles of so many distant countries are trained to zeal, virtue and learning, under the very shadow of the Sanctuary. It should not be forgotten that by his last will, Mr. Ryan bequeathed his valuable library and all his property for the benefit of Religion in his native Province. It must be no small gratification to the people of Halifax to know that one of their fellow citizens has been so highly honoured both in life and death in the capital of the Christian world, as will appear from the following Inscription, for which I am indebted to the kindness of a gentleman.

Memoriae et Quisti
Johannis O. Ryan
Domo Halifaxiae, in Nova Scotia.
Qui
Excellenti Ingenio Florens.
Assidua Litterarum in Collegio Urbano.
Cum Ingenti erga Deum Pietate, et Moribus.

Integerrimis, Christianis Consociis
Sodalibus Exemplo Fuit.
Religionis apud Populares suos propagandae
Studiosissimus.
Desiderium Ministerii Sui.
Patrimonio Locupletissimo
Ad Seminarium Constituendum Adsignato
Abunde Compensavit.
Pius decessit VI Id. Mart. An. MDCCCXXXVI
Aetatis Annos XX.
Exuvias in hoc Templo Religiose inlatis
Amico et Conterraneo Carissimo
Michael Tobinius
Monumentum Posuit.

Hoping that you will give a place to the above, at least to the Epitaph, in your columns. I remain yours, &c.

A CATHOLIC OF HALIFAX.

The Cross;

HALIFAX, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24.

M. POWER, PRINTER.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

We live in an age of wonders. The events of two centuries have been crowded into eighteen months. War, famine, plague, and all the thousand ills which flesh is heir to, have devastated the world. The spirit of mischief, the genius of havoc and destruction seem to have ruled the destinies of the universe; kingdoms, provinces and cities have been ravaged and laid waste. The old institutions of civilized Europe have been assailed by the concentrated energies of pagan philosophy and barbarian crime. In this war of the furious elements the Bark of Peter did not escape. All the wickedness of earth and hell seem to have been let loose upon the Church of God. In no direction were the assaults more furious than upon the metropolis of Christianity. The 'city of the saints' sat solitary, 'the mistress of nations' became a widow, the Princess of provinces was made tributary. The enemy had put out his hand to all her desirable things: for she has seen the gentiles enter into her sanctuary! Great was the triumph of her enemies; loud were the rejoicings and bitter the taunts of those who longed for the destruction of the Catholic Faith. Infidel Protestantism gloated with savage fury over the destruction of Rome, and to that city in its recent desolation might be truly applied the soul-touching language of the Prophet of sorrows: 'All they that passed by the way have clapped their hands at thee; they have hissed and wagged their heads, saying: Is this the city of perfect beauty, the joy of all the earth? All thy enemies have opened their mouth against thee, they have hissed and gnashed with the teeth, and have said; we will swallow her up: Lo, this is the day which we looked for; we have found it, we have seen it.' The enemies of God's Church have, however, reckoned without their host. Even for some time past they have despaired of the fulfilment of their sinister prognostications. Never did the Church triumph more gloriously than during the recent trial. Never was the omnipotence of heavenly meekness in opposition to brute force, more fully displayed than in the person of Pius IX. Whilst the downfall of the Catholic Church was predicted, she was girding up her strength for battle with all the enemies of humanity and religion. She was drawing forth from her inexhaustible armoury new weapons to wield against the hydra-headed monsters of infidelity and heresy; her youth was being renewed like the eagle's, and in the renovation of her discipline, she was raising new bulwarks in defence of her Faith. It is a remarkable fact that within the very year of revolutions more Provincial Councils were held than in any half century since the miscalled Reformation. In Ireland, in France, in Italy and Germany as well as in America, the Princes of the Church have assembled in solemn deliberation to testify to the Faith once delivered to

the Saints, to guard and securely transmit that precious Deposit; to record their unalterable attachment to the See of Peter, and their affectionate homage to the Vicar of Jesus Christ. In Baltimore, and Tuam, in Paris and Vienna, in Lyons and Turin, in Tours and Florence and Rheims, National and Provincial Councils have been held, or are in Session, whilst the Bishops of several other Ecclesiastical Provinces are preparing to follow those noble examples. And if one thing more than another be remarkable in their Decrees it is the declaration of their love and reverence for the Bishop of Bishops, and their unshrinking fidelity to the Great Centre of Unity. In suffering and in exile Pius IX. has received from the universal Church even more homage than when he was enthroned in the Quirinal. This is a great and significant fact which no doubt has made an impression on the opponents of Catholicity, and which ought to convince them that there is an indestructible vitality in our Church which nothing can extinguish. And it is not with mere protestations of attachment, no matter how sincere, with which the Father of the Faithful has been greeted. His devoted children in the midst of their own sufferings, even in the midst of pestilence and famine as in Ireland, have sent him in the hour of need the pious offerings of grateful hearts. This spectacle of Faith so sublime and so consoling is one which only the Catholic Church can exhibit, because she can say with the Apostle of the Gentiles *Cum enim infirmor, tunc potens sum.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We must still crave the indulgence of our respected Correspondent *Sacerdos.* P.—The inside of the Church at the Eastern Passage is plastered, and we believe the altar painted. The consecration of the Church will not take place, we are told, until the commencement of next spring. The Cemetery is blessed, and the fact has been already announced. An American.—The account published from the New York Paper of the conversion to the Catholic Faith of the Rev. Dr. Forbes of St. Luke's Episcopal Church in that city, we believe to be entirely correct. We have read some of his sermons, and they are full of Catholic principles, and we have known for a long time that this worthy Divine had the strongest leanings in favour of Catholicity. Not one clergyman in New York was more universally and deservedly respected than Dr. Forbes. Bem. New Brunswick.—We have received the production alluded to, and have been exceedingly amused at its clever, graphic, humorous descriptions and caustic wit. It would indeed be an extinguisher, if the subject of it had not already extinguished himself. Pointing a culverin at a weasel, or in more vulgar parlance, flinging water on a drowned rat, is an unnecessary expenditure of two of the four elements. You could not gratify such folk more, than to swell them into a momentary importance by noticing their puny attacks. They dread the silence of contempt far more than even the whiplong of public exposure. There must be at least two parties to fight as well as to a bargain. Without an antagonist no man could exercise his pugilistic powers. And what opponent we ask would accept the challenge of a sweep, especially if the latter had his soot-bag on his shoulder?

SALMON RIVER.

In addition to the sums mentioned in our last, another subscription was opened by the worthy Catholics who built that Church, for the purpose of erecting a spire, and completing the exterior of the building. This we also publish with much pleasure.

Rev. John Carmody \$5 0 0
Rev. L. Byrne 1 0 0
James McCarthy 2 0 0

David Maise	\$1 0 0
Anselm Frontain	1 0 0
Celestin M. Deveau	1 0 0
Michael Doucet	1 0 0
Cyprien Martin	1 0 0
Jacob F. Deveau	2 10 0
Thomas Foley	1 0 0
Bazil R. Robichau	0 17 6
Terence Sheehan	5 0 0
Mathurin Deveau	0 10 0
Tern Frontain	0 6 0
Pierce M. Deveau	0 10 0
Louis Deveau	0 10 0
Augustin F. Therriau	0 10 0
Louis Debonillon	0 10 0
Adrien Muiso	0 15 0
Xavier Deveau	0 10 0
Andrew Doucet	0 10 0
Gabriel Muiso	0 11 0
Antoine Doucet	0 1 3
Timothy Doucet	0 15 0
Russel Richard	4 0 0
Louis F. Deveau	0 9 3
Timothy F. Deveau	1 2 6
Michael Deveau	0 15 0
Olivier Doucet	0 15 0
Firman Comeau	1 0 0
Charles Boudro	3 10 0
Jovite Maget	0 5 0
Hilaire Geoffry	0 4 4 1/2
Daniel Harrington	0 10 0
Anselm C. Blanc	0 10 0
David Deveau	1 0 0

The above, in addition to the handsome and generous contributions already announced, speaks for itself, and so noble an example should be a stimulus to our fellow Catholics in other parts of the country.

THE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Since our last publication we have learned with much pleasure that several valuable articles for the approaching Bazaar have been sent to the Convent of the Sisters of Charity. May the Father of the orphan reward the pious donors, and preserve their families and friends from the desolation of orphanage!

THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.

The adjourned Quarterly Meeting of this Association will be held in St. Mary's Vestry on to-morrow immediately after Vespers.

THE NEWS FROM EUROPE.

The Steamer arrived on yesterday. The news is not very important. Various journals announced the speedy return of the Pope to the Eternal City. With respect to our local religious affairs, we may mention that the Bill for the Incorporation of the Catholic Bishop of Halifax has received the Royal Assent and is now the Law of the Land. Under this Bill all the Catholic Properties in the City and County of Halifax can be secured forever for the Sacred purposes to which they are now applied, and will pass from Bishop to Bishop in regular succession.

THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.

THE CROSS.—This Journal was originated under the auspices of that excellent and pious Institution, the Halifax Branch of the great Catholic Society for the Propagation of the Faith. We again invite the co-operation of our fellow Catholics in this and the neighboring Provinces. We especially court the valuable assistance of the members of the Association for the Propagation of the Catholic Faith. With their powerful aid, our circulation might be double its present amount in the city of Halifax alone; and to bring this useful weekly Periodical within the reach of every one in Halifax, we are anxious that our friends in different parts of the city should assist us in the sale of the Paper. The following have already promised their services in the kindest manner, to promote this religious work, and the Cross can be regularly had from them at an early hour on the mornings of publication: Mr. James Donohoe, Market Square.

Mr. Forristall, corner of Brunswick and Jacob Streets;
Mr. John Barron, corner of Gottingen and Cornwallis streets;
Mr. Thomas Connor, adjoining St. Patrick's Church.
Mr. Joseph Roles, Water Street, near Fairbanks' Wharf.
Mr. Thomas Thorpe, Dartmouth