

thoughts and expressions, in which Ozanam almost always had the initiative, they endeavored to formulate, in clear and precise terms, each of the questions that they thought important to be treated on, and which, almost all, related to the social rôle of the Church. A fair copy of this memorial, or rather programme, was then drawn up and immediately sent to Mgr. de Quélen. It is not known what became of this.

The *Univers* of the 8th February published the order for the Conferences of Notre Dame. They were given during the Lent of 1834, to an immense crowd of men of every age and rank, by the seven preachers appointed. At the same time, but at different hours, the Abbé Lacordaire gave his first Conferences in the chapel of the Stanislaus College. They were frequented by young people especially. They concluded with an appeal to the charity of the audience, in favor of a poor artist, who was a cripple at thirty years of age and visited by the young painter Janmot, in his character of member of the Conference of St. Vincent de Paul.

The Conference of charity felt the effect of the activity and ardor of the youth who thus flocked to the foot of the Christian pulpits. At their first meeting in May, 1833, the members were placed under the patronage of Saint Vincent de Paul. On the 4th February, 1834, at the suggestion of Leprevost, they placed themselves still more specially under the protection of that great Saint, by adding to the prayer *Veni Sancte* the invocation *Sancte Vincenti a Paulo, ora pro nobis*, and by resolving to celebrate in future his feast of the 19th July every year. At the same meeting, Ozanam requested that the Society might be placed under the protection of the Most Blessed Virgin also, by choosing one of her feasts to honor her in a special manner. Lhermite proposed the feast of the Immaculate Conception. The two suggestions were unanimously adopted and the *Ave Maria* added to the prayers for the meeting. After the Lent of 1834, the number of members was more than doubled. A touching ceremony