

and the exclusive control of the reading room is vested in a committee chosen by the students. Now, under these circumstances one would naturally suppose that this committee would take all the necessary means to keep the rooms in the best of order. But as a matter of fact such is not the case this year. Numerous complaints have been made, and we have been requested by many who take a lively interest in the matter to remind the committee of its duty. It is not too much to expect that the dailies be left on fyle for at least a week, the important weeklies for a month, and to find the morning papers on fyle at the noon recreation. As an instance of wanton carelessness somewhere, *United Ireland* has often disappeared within a week of its arrival. We need not multiply instances of this kind. *Verbum sat sapienti.*

FEBRUARY 28th.

THE twenty-eighth of February is a day that will long remain in the minds of Ottawa College students associated with the saddest memories. On that day, two years ago, our beloved Father Tabaret, in his own paternal way, invited his children to "go to Joseph." The same tender devotion to the great patron of the Universal Church which led him to place the College under his protection prompted him likewise to observe with especial honor the month of Joseph. An hour later Father Tabaret was taken suddenly ill; and a little later he was dead! Those who have not lived in a college like ours cannot realize the feelings of the community. A family closely united in the bonds of affection suddenly losing its loved father is the nearest parallel we can give. Two years have

softened the grief felt at his loss. Still Father Tabaret lives in the hearts of fathers and students and many a fervent prayer is breathed for the repose of his great soul. The number who received Holy Communion with the same intention at the anniversary mass speaks more loudly than words of the reverence and love for Father Tabaret which still animate his spiritual children. Year after year as this day comes round students past and present will join with the fathers in uttering a heartfelt "*Requiescat in pace.*"

FORTY HOURS' DEVOTION.

TO a Catholic nothing in all the practices of the grand old faith is so touching as the Forty Hours' Devotion. The real presence of the Divine Lord in the Blessed Sacrament is so sublimely consoling that though we feel that the unceasing adoration for forty hours falls infinitely short of what is due, yet it is some expression of the gratitude which we should feel.

May the devotion which has just ended bring down on the College every blessing.

ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

NO greater anomaly can be imagined than the use of public school text-books in Catholic schools. After all the efforts of priests and laymen to bring our schools to perfection what has been accomplished? The Separate School books and the Public School books are identical. The teachers receive no special Catholic training. So all the benefit outside of a quarter of an hour's catechism daily is purely negative. The teacher being Catholic will not, of course, intensify the Protestant coloring of the text-books. He may, to a certain extent