

Our Alumni.

A Roman Letter.

(From a letter just received by a member of the Faculty, we make the excerpt as below. The writer is John J. Cox, '07, now student at the Propaganda, Rome. The topic is an appropriate one, and the writer reveals well the touching features of the great Roman 'festa.' To obtain a coign of vantage in such a jostling multitude is ever a heroic feat, but trust our old scrimmage key-stone for that. We hope to be able to publish other phases of Roman student life from time to time.—Ed.)

COLLEGIO AMERICANO DEL NORD,

ROMA, ITALIA, Dec. 13, '04.

* * * We have just put in two of the most busy weeks that I know of since I have been here, as almost every day we have either been on ceremonies in some church near by, or visiting the Lateran Museum, where all the gifts received by the Popes in honor of the Immaculate Conception were exhibited to the public; and it is needless to say that they far surpassed anything that I had ever seen in that line. The most beautiful ciboriums, crucifixes and candelabra imaginable, adorned with the most precious jewels; the original documents of the dogmatic Definition; the tiara and vestments worn by Pius the IX, on the day he declared the dogma, were all on exhibition, and a great many other valuable things which, of course, are very important, but entirely too numerous to mention here. They had copies of every picture of the Madonna; and histories of every shrine of the Blessed Virgin on the face of the earth; and even pictures and sketches of the lives of a great many of the people who had been cured while visiting those shrines, were to be seen.

We also spent some time at the church of the *Santi Apostoli*, where a Congress, pertaining to the glories and consolations of the Dogma of the Immaculate Conception, was held by representatives of the different countries and Catholic provinces throughout the world. The idea of the Congress was to gather