

ORDINATION.

An Ordination will be held at St Mary's, at 8 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 18th instant, when the Holy Order of Priesthood will be conferred.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH.

A Meeting of the Collectors and Members of this Society will be held in the New Vestry at seven o'clock on Monday evening 24th instant.

THE PRIEST.

BY M. DE CORMENIN.

In the Catholic Church every thing is maintained in a wonderful organization. If the truth of religion be in its dogma, its strength is in its discipline.

For an Eternal God, it was necessary to have a ministry of perpetual consecration. The order of the priesthood is therefore a perpetual sacrament. It follows the priest, through all his career, and enters with him into the tomb.

Who is his wife? The Church. What is his family? Humanity. Who are his children? The poor. Who will love them, the poor; who will love them more than his life, more than his soul, if it be not the priest? Religion, by a sublime inspiration of its charity, takes the priest by the hand and says: "Behold your Father, O you poor, who have neither fathers, nor mothers, nor brothers nor sisters, nor family. Behold your Consoler, O you afflicted who are without comfort. Behold your Spouse, Church of God, your Spouse, whose duty it is to promote your joy both day and night, to teach your doctrines, to organize your pumps, to distribute your sacraments!"

LITERATURE.

From Maxims and Examples of the Saints.

PERFECTION.

If you wish in good earnest to make progress in spiritual things, you must endeavour to follow exactly the counsel of the apostle, "take heed to thyself;" which contains two pieces of advice; the first is, not to meddle with the actions of others, nor to regard their failings; for he hath indeed no small task, to perform his own actions well, and correct his own failings. The second is, to endeavour with all diligence to perfect ourselves in virtue, and to attend to this incessantly, without considering whether the eyes

of others are fixed upon us or not; because perfection is especially what belongs to each individual, that although many, who now live together in one and the same religious profession, company, family, or village, are said here to form only one body; yet in the next world it is nevertheless certain, that each one will be judged himself, and will have to render an account of his own spiritual advancement and failings.—THE ABBE FAYON.

A singular example of this was that holy man, the venerable Berchmans, who from the very moment he entered into the society of Jesus, made it his object to become a saint; so that from that time forth he looked upon it as his grand point, and as it were his only and most important aim, to mind himself; and this altogether he kept in view as long as he could, but with such diligence, and such unwearied solicitude, that he had not a moment to think of the actions of others, or to regard their failings. On which account he never stayed to reflect why others did or said such and such things, and whether they did them well or ill; nor did he ever engage himself in defending one person, at the risk of displeasing another; but he suffered all quietly to perform their own actions, and to mind their own affairs. And as for the failings of others, he observed them so little, (so intent was he upon himself,) that even though they were committed in his presence, he did not perceive them. So that it is said of him that he never knew the defects into which others fall. All his object was to correct his own failings, and to perform his own actions well. And, moreover, the diligence which he used to keep his own soul free from defects, was indeed extraordinary; for besides going well through his daily examinations of conscience, and a most rigorous retreat of one day in each month, he often with great earnestness entreated both his superiors and his companions to keep their eyes upon him, and tell him whenever they saw him fail in any point. And when any one gave him any such notice, he regarded it as a singular kindness, and he offered up particular prayers for whomsoever it might be who had remarked it to him. But not content with this, as he had a most ardent desire to become each day more and more pleasing to God, he aimed at this with all his power. In a word, he gave himself up with the most admirable diligence to the most exact observance of all the rules of the society; to execute promptly and faithfully every thing which was exacted from him by holy obedience; to perform well, and with particular devotion, the spiritual exercises, inasmuch as they immediately regarded the honour of God, and his own spiritual advancement; and, above all, his communions, about which he always spent two hours. In one word, he used the utmost diligence in the exercise of the various virtues, and, above all, of charity towards the sick. And though he took great delight in study, nevertheless he would