



EDITORIAL NOTES.

A GENTLEMAN writes to us complaining that while we apparently boom the "Catholic Sailors' Association"—meaning, we suppose, the "Catholic Truth Society," we have neglected to publish certain letters sent us concerning a "Catholic Society Hall, or Building." According to our correspondent, for some mysterious reason, we let drop the latter subject. We are not under the impression that we ever received any letters such as those referred to; we have ransacked every pigeon-hole in our office and have failed to find the same, nor does our memory at all suggest them. Still we must disclaim ever having let drop such an important subject for the reasons mentioned. We are most anxious, and have ever been so, that a general Hall—such as our non-Catholic fellow-citizens enjoy—should be erected for the benefit of our Catholic young men. But we can say squarely that we have brought the subject before dozens of our leading citizens, and have generally met with the same reply,—that they did not see any immediate prospect of a success in that direction. So far we have failed to meet with the society that is prepared to start the ball rolling. But whether such an institution is or is not possible in the near future, has nothing to do with the Catholic Truth Society. There are many things we need and cannot get; but that in no way gives us a ground work for attacking what we do possess. We need a High school in the worst way; but we are not going to secure it by running down or refusing to support the other schools at our disposal. We need a daily paper very badly; but it won't come by closing up the only substitute we possess for such an organ. We certainly require a general hall for the young Catholics of Montreal, but we won't get it by injuring existing institutions that are doing incalculable good in their own way. Our correspondent refers to knocks the paper will get; the paper is prepared for the same, especially when they come from hands that have evidently done little to support either it, or the cause for the defense of which it was established. Some people would do better to knock at their own breasts, repeat the *mea culpa*, and honestly look into their own hearts and question themselves as to their sincere and real motives of action.

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HERE is about the richest resolution we have ever read; it was proposed by a Mr. Cassidy, at the recent Constitutional Convention in Albany:

"No local Board of Education shall employ any school teacher who espouses any religious sect, nor shall any teacher who is employed appear in the garb of a nun, the cassock of a priest, the close-buttoned coat of an Episcopal rector, the white necktie of a Methodist minister, the stern countenance of a Presbyterian, or the lank figure of a Baptist; nor in the severe simplicity of a Shaker, or the cheap material affected by the Society of Friends. To avoid all appearance and even suspicion of sectarianism or sanc-

tity on the part of public school teachers, for male teachers the dress shall be the zouave dress adopted by Colonel Billy Wilson's male regiment in the war for the Union; for female teachers, the latest bicycle costume imported from Paris."

Just imagine such a measure being carried by sane people!

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We have received a lengthy communication from a gentleman signing himself "An Irishman with a small purse, but a good will." While we heartily agree with the contentions of the writer we are sorry that space this week will not permit of the publication of that logical and interesting letter. We trust, however, that the ideas therein expressed will prevail and that a more generous spirit may be awakened amongst our people regarding the necessity of a thoroughly Catholic paper.

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WE are not very well posted in the Western Watchman's grievances and troubles, but we think it would be a little more becoming, were the learned editor of that enterprising paper to use a little less sarcasm and to show a somewhat more truly Catholic spirit in dealing with the leading members of the hierarchy. Of course there may be some petty spleen to satisfy of which we know nothing, yet that satisfaction should not be at the risk of scandalizing Catholic readers.

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"PREMIER CRISPI," says a Roman despatch, "is ready to make an concessions to the Church compatible with the maintenance of Italy's sovereignty over every part of the soil, but Italy will never concede the temporal power of the Pope." In other words, a thief takes your money; he is perfectly willing to grant you any favor in the world, except the possession of the money he took. He will let you alone; he will allow you to eat, sleep, or do what you please; but he will not restore the stolen goods. He is very generous, but you don't require his generosity in that line. What you want is the money that he illegally holds. So it is with Crispi; he will concede anything to the Pope, except that which is the Pope's rightful property. That kind of petty diplomacy is played out and the European powers see clearly through the Italian Government's scheme. But Crispi will pass away and the Papacy will still be there to claim and to eventually secure its rights.

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IN referring to a recent pilgrimage to Cape de la Madeleine and Three Rivers one of our evening contemporaries made some very grave mistakes in the report given. For instance, it was stated that a great number of the pilgrims, men and women, visited the Anglican Church at Three Rivers, where the remains of "Saint Didace" are buried. In the first place, there is no Saint Didace; it was an humble Brother of the Recollets, who bore that name, who was killed in the church and buried under its High Altar, in the days when it was a Catholic tem-

ple. Frere Didace was never canonized, nor is he even beatified. In the next place, the pilgrims did not visit the Anglican Church, as stated, nor did that pilgrimage comprise any gentlemen. In fact, the whole report is erroneous, from first to last. It is thus that many of our most important Catholic events are wrongly reported. We make this correction simply for the purpose of letting the public understand that the principal Catholic items of news are, as a rule, misrepresented in the reports made by the secular press. It is unfortunate that it should be so; but all we can do is to correct those errors.

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SOMETIMES we are greatly mistaken; this time we may also be in error, but we nevertheless are of opinion that some of our Catholic confreres of the American press are giving a great deal too much prominence to the sect of A. P. A's. In fact we believe that the society would, in the course of nature, fall to pieces and disappear into the oblivion out of which it arose, if its name and its deeds were not so prominently kept before the public. It is all well enough to point out the errors of those fanatics and, at times, to refute their more serious accusations, but when it comes to filling page after page, and that week in and week out, with nothing else except A. P. A. refutations, we feel that the Society aimed at only gains notoriety and is kept alive by such artificial means. The less attention is paid to a certain class of disturbers the more effectively are they silenced.

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BOB INGERSOLL is said to be preparing another lecture. This time he intends to tear to pieces every remnant of Christianity. He is going to upset the Church, destroy the universal belief in God, and make chaos return. Probably he will begin by trying to blast the rock upon which the church is built; he may then proceed to dislodge the earth from its present orbit, and having accomplished that feat, he may wind up by ripping the canopy of the skies into shreds. It is wonderful how audacious some men become when they have had an over-dose of free advertisement. Yet it is still more wonderful how gullable the general public always is, and how people are to be found who can spend their money for the purpose of encouraging such creatures as that notorious blasphemer. It is almost time for Ingersoll to have some sense. Surely by this time he has made money enough, and can afford to retire and try to make peace with God before the end of his days.

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WE are informed, by one of our exchanges, that a family in Minneapolis possesses a brass button from one of General Washington's coats. The button is regarded as a "sacred heirloom" in the family, and no person finds fault with this. It is a mere relic of a great man, and it recalls to mind the patriotism and success of the man to whom it once belonged. However, the very members of

that family would be the first to ridicule the Catholic who prizes any relic of some mighty conqueror in the arena of faith. It is wonderful how inconsistent humanity is; as long as an action corresponds with the ideas of certain people they look upon it with admiration, while they are ready to condemn the self-same action when the circumstances under which it takes place do not harmonize with their own special prejudices.

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BETWEEN the vaporings of Joe Chamberlain and the manifestoes, articles, and other public utterances of prominent Imperial politicians, the Home Rule cause is getting some severe rubs on the other side of the Atlantic. But happily experience and history teach that a just cause may be checked but cannot be permanently injured, no matter what the tactics of those who wish to bring it into discredit. It is all very fine for interested politicians to spend their parliamentary vacation in this way; but the truth of Duffy's saying is daily and yearly made manifest, that, "men may come and men may go, but the cause lives on forever." The grand principle of Irish Home Rule is now too firmly established to permit of any anxiety, no matter what may be the enmities of public men, or the weapons used against it. Not only the Irish people, but every other people in the civilized world to-day, acknowledge the justice of that cause, and it shall yet triumph when its opponents least expect. All these sensational reports on the subject in no way affect the grand and ultimate result. The only conclusion, in the minds of Home Rulers, to which they should give rise, is that a greater union is necessary, and a more perfect harmony of action is imperative.

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WE notice that the Herald is again at its little trick of insulting, in a most undignified and miserable manner, the Hon. Mr. Curran. Unfortunately for that morning and evening publication it wields a boomerang that only recoils upon itself. Its mean insinuations and petty attacks only serve to raise the one against whom they are levelled proportionately higher in the estimation of the public. Moreover, these remarks, so uncalled for and so unbecoming, are simply so many direct insults to the host of people who so often recorded their confidence in and expressed their esteem for that gentleman. Its style of combat is beneath the serious attention of any reputable organ; still it is not out of place for us to inform that journal of a plain fact, to wit: that it need not think to cloak itself with a political domino and then stab with impunity the character or reputation of any Irish Catholic in this community—much less a representative of our race and creed. If it is any satisfaction to the Herald, or any other organ to know it, we can say, that, at the request of a leading statesman of the day, Mr. Curran purposes remaining in public life; nor is he likely to be politically disabled by such shafts as those which have recently been fired at him.