

The Owl.

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THE OWL is the journal of the students of the University of Ottawa. Its object is to aid the students in their literary development, to chronicle their doings in and out of class, and to unite more closely the students of the past and present to their Alma Mater.

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A STRANGE OMISSION.

We had intended to make editorial reference to an article on the Church of the Sacred Heart at Montmartre, Paris, that appears in the current number of the *American Messenger of the Sacred Heart*, a magazine edited by the Jesuit Fathers. But David Creedon has forestalled us in his always excellent "Note and Comment" column in the *Antigonish Casket*. His views are so exactly our own that we leave the matter entirely in his hands and quote him in full.

"It may interest Mr. Blair of New Hampshire and certain other individuals who are in the habit of seeing Jesuits whenever they look about them," says an exchange, "to

know that the whole number of Jesuits in the world is but a trifle over 14,000, and of these, only three-sevenths are in holy orders." But after all, this misconception is largely due to the "soldiers of the company" themselves. Their marchings and counter-marchings, as they publish them to the world, are like the movements in one of those fancy drills which college cadet corps often give upon the stage. Some fifteen or twenty cadets will go through such bewildering evolutions that any one, except a "man with a military eye," would imagine that there were a hundred of them. To read the statements made by the Jesuits concerning their work, one would imagine that they must be twenty times as numerous as they really are. They publish a vast number of books and edit a large number of magazines, all written with consummate ability. The *London Month*, the *Paris Etudes*, the *Roman Civiltà Cattolica* are among the finest Catholic periodicals in the world. But if we were to confine our reading to these books and magazines we might never discover that there were any religious orders in the Church except the Society of Jesus. Perhaps it is a rule of the Society to abstain from any reference to other communities, lest there should be a temptation to make comparisons.

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Two little instances of this abstention have lately come under my notice. In the January number of the *Etudes* and in the April number of the *American Messenger of the Sacred Heart* there are long articles on Montmartre and the great basilica of the Sacred Heart there situated. Now it is well known that the Jesuits are the great apostles of the devotion to the Sacred Heart throughout the world. Would Mr. Blair be to blame for supposing that the priests in charge of the church of the National Vow were Jesuits? As a matter of fact they are Oblates of Mary Immaculate who, to the number of fifteen to twenty-five, have been in charge of the basilica for the last twenty-seven years, and have ministered to the spiritual wants of the countless number of pilgrims who have visited Montmartre. But neither the *Etudes* nor the *Messenger* give the slightest hint to this effect. The word Oblate is never mentioned, and the natural conclusion is that they are all Jesuits. It is this