

erect assembly buildings, and lecture halls of its own. After sufficient space has been set aside for this purpose and for the roads, walks, and gardens, the committee has resolved to sell, or to let the remainder of the land to those who wish to erect cottages, and bring their families with them to the meetings of the school. All the proceeds from these sales will be placed to the credit of the institution and thus it is hoped that it will become self-supporting.

Situated, as it is, upon the shores of the picturesque Lake Champlain, at the town of Plattsburg, around which cluster so many memories dear to the Catholic heart, the Summer School is blessed indeed with a favored site. He who comes hither to quaff of the "Pierian spring," can drink deep of the lore of Greece and Rome, and at the same time be renewed in health and strength, by the invigorating breezes of the historic lake, which lies beneath him.

In this sequestered spot, the scholar is brought into contact with kindred spirits, his intellect is sharpened, and he renews his youth. Here Cooper found the materials for his characteristic American tales, which have lured more than one European scholar, to forsake his beloved mother-land, and come to dwell beneath that young flag, which proudly floats over such a delightful region. Champlain has been the scene of many a hard-fought battle between the French and the English as they struggled for the supremacy over the vast continent of North America. It is enriched with the blood of patriots, who died fighting for the Stars and Stripes, in the long and weary war of Independence. The smiling waters of Lake Champlain roll calmly and peacefully over the corpses of scores of sailors who nobly perished in the defence of the land, they called their home, during the sanguinary and foolish war of 1812.

Religion, too, has its memories still green in the hearts of Catholics, for that saintly man Champlain, whose name now rests upon the lake, was the first to bear the glad tidings of the Gospel to the poor benighted children of the forest. Remembering such patriotic deeds, indissolubly connected with the truths of religion, no Catholic American can fail to

be aroused to that degree of enthusiasm which is always an unfailing harbinger of success.

A few remarks about the need and objects of the summer school will not be amiss. We Catholics in America have many colleges and universities scattered here and there throughout the land; but hitherto, we have had no link, no tie to bind us together into one unit and collect into one vast assemblage our most prominent and learned priests, professors and laymen. We had a somewhat hazy and indefinite idea that Professor A— was a clever man, that Mr. B— was a fluent ready speaker, but we had never listened to the erudite lectures of the former, nor revelled in the sparkling eloquence of the latter. The school on Lake Champlain supplies this long-felt want; it brings together our men of sciences; it makes them acquainted with one another, and we are enabled to hold communication with "The choice and master-spirits of the age."

We are all cognizant of the inestimable benefit to be derived from this meeting of Greek with Greek upon the battle-field of Minerva. This school then, will be national in its character; the representatives of the sunny South will mingle in solemn conclave with the sturdy delegates from the North. Each will derive many benefits from that meeting.

Are we Canadians to hold aloof from this concourse of learning? No; we are cordially invited by our American cousins to take part in its deliberations, and we surely shall not fail to profit of such a golden opportunity. If the Catholics of Canada unite with those of the States the result will be beneficial to both; they will come to know each other better. There will be an intermingling of thought, an exchange of ideas, a comparison of their different methods of teaching.

We do not see any valid reason why the Catholics of Canada should not join hands with their American brothers and make the Summer School, what its founders intended it to be—the centre and quintessence of Catholic thought of North America. If this desired result could be obtained, then indeed, would Champlain shed a brilliant lustre upon the Church in America and cause it to be a credit and