

into the diligence : we have fifty miles to travel. We start at eight o'clock in the morning, and at five o'clock in the evening we are in the city. It has not the commercial look nor the stir which the seaport gives to Urban ; but, in compensation, it has the advantage of being the seat of the Government. The Governor and his suite, the various functionaries of the State, a regiment of English soldiers, a fine military band, all contribute to give importance and brilliancy to this little aristocratic city, as the inhabitants of Urban, somewhat jealous of the privileges of the capital, style it. An elevation of more than 2,000 feet procures for it a moderate temperature. The winter nights are cold. But here, as all through the country, the sun of Africa makes its rays be felt during the daytime, even in winter, when we never see a cloud. In summer, on the contrary, frequent rains fall to temper the fierceness of his rays. We have established at Pietermaritzburg a convent, with a boarding and day school, and a primary school and an infant school, and we have just added an orphanage, where already fourteen little girls have found a refuge, and the motherly care of the Sisters of the Holy Family. We have built a residence there for the Bishop and his clergy, and we have consecrated the principal wing of the building to the education of the young men of the town. Besides English, we teach Latin, French, and accomplishments. The college of the Oblate Fathers is in existence but a few months, and is already the most flourishing in the city ; it has more pupils than the two other colleges together. So that lately the Rev. M. Newnham, member of the legislative Council, acknowledged, in a speech in the Chamber, that the Catholics had surpassed, as far as education was concerned, all that the Government and the Protestant sects could do. At least the two thirds of the children who frequent the schools are not Catholics, and, for prudential motives, we avoid disturbing their religious ideas, but educated as they are in a healthy atmosphere, they escape equally the deleterious miasmata of indifference and the violent poison of anti-Catholic fanaticism.

IN THE LONG RUN, THE EFFECT MUST BE SALUTARY,
and, at present, this state of things secures for our