

Since he took in hand the Archiepiscopal staff thirteen years ago, besides minor works, important and numerous, there have been added to New York City's embellishment, two of its most attractive monuments, the artistic spires and melodious chimes of its Cathedral, as well as a spacious and magnificent seminary at Dunwoodie. These indeed are conspicuous tokens of a city's faith and piety, but let us examine closely, let us count with joy the hoarded treasures of Catholic effort this great Metropolis has hidden in her bosom.

The hundred struggling Catholics of less than a century and a quarter ago, are now succeeded by about 800,000 adherents of that same divine belief; the rickety carpenter shop is replaced by one hundred elegant churches and fifty chapels; the poor, hungry, solitary missionary of the olden times now looks with joy from a blessed reward, upon five hundred zealous priests all occupied at gathering in the harvest for which with sweaty, care-worn brow, he sowed the initial seeds. Ten religious orders of missionary priests and three congregations of teaching brothers are represented in the city. Within the same limits, twenty-three orders of nuns are daily occupied at works of piety, charity and zeal. These statistics are, by no means, applicable to what is now known as Greater New York; they represent the city proper, as comprised on Manhattan Island. The Catholic population of Greater New York must be in the neighborhood of a million and a half, with priests, churches, schools and other educational or charitable institutions in proportion. To say that there are more members of our Holy Church in Greater New York than in the whole Province of Quebec might

prove surprising to many readers of *The Owl*. Nevertheless such a statement is not without foundation; indeed we feel quite confident that an actual computation and a comparison of figures would place its correctness beyond the reach of doubt.

If we take into consideration the whole diocese of New York and count its figures, the result is very striking. The Most Rev. Michael A. Corrigan has under his pastoral jurisdiction, nearly seven hundred diocesan clergy, sixteen male and thirty-seven female religious orders, three hundred and ninety-nine churches, chapels and stations, three hundred and sixty colleges, academies and parochial schools, forty-five homes, almshouses, hospitals and missions, and about forty-three thousand children who are attending parochial schools. Last year the number of baptisms and of confirmations amounted to the handsome figures of 34,156 and 16,883 respectively.

After a serious glance at this magnificent showing made by Catholicity in the Empire City, and in the whole diocese: to which that city gives a name, who will try gainsay the height of splendor our holy religion has there attained? What other page in Christianity's record displays its equal? Throughout the wide empire of Christendom, no other diocese is more worthy of our praise and admiration. That vineyard which the Lord brought away from many Egypts and planted on the slopes of the lovely Hudson has filled the whole territory of historic Manhattan. "The shadow of it (has) covered the hills: and the branches thereof the cedars of God. It (has) stretched forth its branches unto the sea: and its boughs unto the river." But far unlike the unproductive spot of which the Inspired Writer sings.