

*ITEMS OF INTEREST.*

The "Elevators" elevated: The 26th of October was "elevating" day at Toronto Medical School; that is, it was the day set apart by the sophomores for hoisting the freshmen. But it seems that in this case the tables were turned. The sophomores had no sooner made their appearance among the freshmen than they were seized by the latter and were themselves so thoroughly elevated that mistrusting their senses, they began to imagine that all had been a dream, that they were themselves freshmen about to commence their first year in medicine. At Trinity Medical School, things were managed but little better on the part of the sophs, and the most that can be said of it is that it was not a complete failure. Hazing, hoisting, &c., have apparently had their day, and will happily soon be things of the past.

A few days ago, a group of French pilgrims, while in Rome, visited the Pantheon where Victor Emanuel is buried. Here a visitors' book is kept, and it appears that one of the pilgrims wrote in this book the words "Vive le Pape," and then endeavored to wipe it out by wetting his finger and rubbing it over the page. Loungers about the place, ever eager for excitement, hastened to inform the authorities and before the culprit could be removed, the false report was spread that the pilgrims had spat upon the tomb and dishonored the dead "King." The whole radical element of Rome soon collected and forced the Frenchmen to flee for their lives. During all the afternoon such shouts as "Down with the Pope," "Viva Giordano," &c., might be heard on the streets. But not satisfied with this, they resolved to proceed to the Vatican, to give his Holiness a taste of what they call liberty. Once before in 1848, these radicals surrounded the Quirinal Palace, rudely clamoring for the Holy Father to come forth upon the balcony, and bestow upon them the Pontifical Benediction, and would perhaps have now done something of the same nature, had they been allowed to approach the Vatican; but the Government fearing the consequences did not permit the insult. It is said that grave fears are expressed by the Pope that the incident may lead to something more lamentable.

A year since, the Right Rev. John J. Keane, rector of Washington University, lectured in the Dudlean course at Harvard, on "Revealed Religion," and such an impression did he make on that occasion, that a few days ago, when he preached at the re-dedication of St. Paul's Church, Cambridge, many professors and students of Harvard gladly embraced the opportunity of listening to the solid sense and choice English of this distinguished Bishop. The effort was one of the best in his life. His plea for international peace was particularly fine, and showed him to be Catholic in the true sense of the word and American withal. He voiced the sentiment of the whole nation, when he said, "God bless America, and from America may Christ's spirit spread to the ends of the earth, till the standing armies are disarmed, and the weapons of destruction are buried out of sight, and national hatreds and animosities are forgotten, till every nation will recall the words of St. Paul in the Areopagus: 'God hath made of one blood all mankind to dwell upon the face of the earth.'"

The present Vicariate of Natal is under the care of the Right Rev. Bishop Jolivet, O.M.I. Besides Natal colony, it includes the Transkeian Territories (formerly called Kaffraria, and now sub-divided into various districts, of which Griqualand East and Pondoland may be named), Zululand, Swaziland and Amatongaland.

The Vicariate of the Orange Free State is under the jurisdiction of the Right Rev. Dr. Gaughran, O.M.I., whom journalists at home sometimes, by a very intelligible mistake, call the Bishop of Kimberley. The Bishop resides at Kimberley, Diamond fields. His vicariate, though named after the largest country, includes also Griqualand West (a territory annexed to Cape Colony), and Basutoland.

The Catholic Missions in the Transvaal or South African Republic, are watched over by the Very Rev. Father Monginoux, O.M.I., the devoted and energetic Prefect Apostolic. Since his appointment in 1886, a great deal has been done to provide for the spiritual wants of the many Catholic emigrants who have been flocking into the country, and to prepare the way also by which the knowledge of