

valuable papers, it contains six excellent contributions to its fiction with other seasonable Christmas reading to enliven its pages.

The December issue of *The Rosary* opens with a charming description of some famous churches in Rome and of affecting customs and incidents witnessed during Christmas week. Truly the most valuable article of this number is Father Coleman's second paper on "Friars in the Philippines" and as the author has given a true view of the insurgents and the deplorable work of Masonary, it is well worth the earnest consideration of all readers. Not the least interesting of the fiction is "Mrs. St. John's Secret" and another delightful story entitled "A Christmas at Sea."

The initial article of the *Ave Maria* of November 26th is a cleverly written criticism of Mrs. Humphrey Ward's latest book "Helbeck of Bannisdale". Every Catholic must feel the inadequacy of her presentation; for as the writer points out, Mrs. Ward has not recognized that intellectual conviction and the supernatural principle are essential to faith. Later issues of this weekly are, above all instructive, readable and stimulating and are in keeping with the high standard it has laid down for itself.

The first of our annuals of 1899 that we bid welcome is the *Catholic Almanac of Ontario*. The cover which is a well executed work of the designer's art represents the Madonna and Child in faint outlines of blue and white with a back ground of azure blue. This annual contains abundant information on civil and ecclesiastical affairs and in everything it is particularly accurate and complete. It merits a hearty recommendation to every Catholic in the province.

Of Local Interest.

By W. P. EGLESON.

The Senior English Debating Society has been reorganized for another season's work. At a meeting of the members held on Wednesday, the 7th inst., the following officers were elected :

DIRECTOR—Rev. J. Duffy, O.M.I.

PRESIDENT—Mr. J. E. Doyle, '90.