

under the short ribs with their griped fists, and with their knees to catch him on the hip and piche him on his neck, with a hundred such murthering devices. And hereof groweth envy, rancour, and malice, and sometimes brawling, murther, homicide, and great effusion of blood: as experience daily teacheth."

During the last few years it has frequently been asserted that Catholicity is dying out in England. The following statistics furnished by Mr. John S. Howell will give some idea of how little truth there is in the assertion. The figures in the United States of America are also given, since, during the years mentioned, a great number of immigrants, largely Catholic, have come from England to America.

## UNITED STATES.

Year.	Catholics.
1790 .....	30,000
1800 .....	100,000
1810 .....	150,000
1820 .....	300,000
1830 .....	600,000
1840 .....	1,500,000
1850 .....	3,500,000
1860 .....	4,500,000
1878 .....	7,000,000
1893 .....	8,902,033

## ENGLAND AND WALES.

Year.	Catholics.
1800 .....	135,000
1815 .....	90,300
1826 .....	432,000
1839 .....	471,894
1850 .....	1,000,000
1860 .....	1,275,000
1870 .....	1,297,000
1880 .....	1,353,575
1897 .....	1,500,000

The number of Catholics in Scotland in 1839 was 90,000, and in 1895 it was 365,000.

The Duke of Norfolk replying to a request from the Very Rev. Canon Gordon of Sheffield, to take part in a meeting to answer certain charges made by some so-called "ex-priests," declined the invitation, saying that he considered it better to ignore these "filthy lectures" and the people who attend them. No fair-minded person, he says, will believe these stories, and it would be insulting them to suppose they would. "It is," continues the Duke, "because I thank God with my whole heart that in His mercy I am a Catholic; because I glory in belonging to the old faith; because I love and reverence our priesthood as I do, that I decline to be driven to bay by accusations which no decent man would listen to, no generous man believe. Thank God two of my sisters are nuns. Thank God one of my wife's last acts in this life was to found a convent. Am I wrong in thinking that Sheffield would be ashamed that I should have to defend their fair fame before my fellow citizens? I cannot but think that on reflection every one will feel that the attack upon us is not worthy of such a demonstration as is proposed, and I trust the idea of it will be given up."

Dr. J. K. Foran, in his critical review, *The Pen*, speaks as follows of our recent fire:—"The whole Dominion was grieved to learn of the very serious fire that recently destroyed part of the Ottawa University. The beautiful and costly chapel—one of the most perfect gems of its kind in Canada—was practically destroyed. There is some satisfaction in the fact that the loss was covered by insurance; but no insurance can ever restore that which has been wiped out. For a special reason we feel an exceptional sorrow;