

Catholic Truth Society's work. We engage in controversy only for the purpose of defence, and for the purpose of stating what our belief is and the grounds for our belief, when we find that our belief, or the grounds on which our belief rests are attacked or misrepresented. A great deal has been done by such societies in the way of controversy, not for the purpose of attacking any man's belief, but for the purpose of putting plainly before those who differ from us what we believe and why we believe it. That certainly can give offence to no man. While I say that the Catholic Truth Society inculcates upon its members great forbearance, let me not be understood to mean that we apologize for that which we believe or that which we practise. We avow and defend our faith and the practice of it knowing that what we are taught will bear criticism, and deserves defence.

We shall endeavour to get the publications of the Society placed in depôts in Ottawa, where they will be accessible to all at little more than the cost of publication. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will distribute these publications in the homes of poor Catholics.

We ask you to help us in this undertaking, and your presence this evening in such large numbers is gratifying. We ask such of you as approve the objects we have in view to give us your names for membership. The fee is fixed at one dollar a year. I beg you will not consider that a subscription. There are many, perhaps, who will join the Society who could give us as an annual subscription many times that amount, but we want your names—your co-operation—your sympathy and patronage.

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