

ty of the Catholic religion. The same religion which takes the savage of America or the fanatic of India, and eradicates his savagery or fanaticism, replacing it with elements necessary for a civilized and supernatural life, takes also the brightest, most cultivated and most highly gifted men and women from heresy or infidelity, and leading them on to the same supernatural life, satisfies every longing of their refined natures, and opens up new and boundless fields for their varied energies, their diverse talents, their peculiar genius. So it is with nations ; so far from producing a dull uniformity in the character of nations, it fosters, purifies and intensifies their characteristic excellences. And necessarily so, for the Catholic religion, the gift of the Supremely True and Supremely Beautiful, must produce Unity in Variety. So strong is the principle of Unity, that the church in each country reacts upon and influences the Universal Church. We think then that it would be something to be regretted, if all or most of the Catholic thinkers of a nation were formed in a foreign country, even in Rome itself.

It is in the great Universities especially that color and direction are given to Catholic thought ; therefore it is with un-mixed pleasure that we regard the inauguration of the Catholic University of Washington.

No one who reads the accounts of the recent proceedings at Baltimore and Washington, will deny that the Catholics of the United States are pre-eminently American, and Catholics elsewhere were narrow-minded, indeed, if they found fault with them on this score. We Canadians, proud of our own country, and glorying in our own church, tender to our American brethren the most cordial congratulations. On behalf of the University of Ottawa we wish the great American University unlimited success both in developing Catholic thought on lines truly American and American thought on lines truly Catholic.

*REV. A. DONTENVILLE, O M I.*

The departure of Father Dontenville from our midst, creates a vacancy upon the staff of this institution which, indeed, it will be difficult to fill. Summoned to relinquish his position here, he murmured not, but went forth to labor in other fields where, perhaps, his splendid talents are more urgently needed. He has left us with the assurance that naught can be said but what is commendatory of his labors as professor of natural sciences, which position he filled in this College, during the long course of twelve years. We do not venture to question the wisdom of his superiors in their decision, nevertheless, we cannot but regret that they could not find some means by which the necessity of his removal might have been avoided. His success as a teacher is universally conceded ; the secret of that success may be found in the fact that he was earnest in whatever he undertook.

His appointment as director of the Oblate College of St. Louis, New Westminster, B. C., is a recognition of his zeal and administrative ability. We do not hesitate to say that, under his care the College of St. Louis will rapidly advance in popular favor. The love and good wishes of his former students attend him in his new home ; and, through *THE OWL*, they waft the expression of their sincerest hope that the future years may be for him years of happiness and contentment : and that, as they gradually unfold themselves, they will open to his gaze new success, and triumphs attained.

We are not envious of you, friend St. Louis, but we would fain have Father Dontenville back amongst us. We do not desire to parade our pain, but we feel constrained to say that, much as it must have grieved Father Dontenville to leave a city and a college where so many ties of friendship had been formed, the sorrow, at the separation, has been, to us, keener, and the regret will be more lasting.