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SERMON.

BY HIS GRACE ARCHBISHOP DUHAMEL, IN THE UNIVERSITY CHAPEL SEPT.
26th, 1892.

Behold, I and my children, whom the Lord hath given me for a sign, and for a wonder.—
(Isaias viii., 18.)

My Lord, Rev. Fathers, My Dear Young Friends:—



IT affords me great pleasure to come this morning to preside over this grand demonstration of faith and piety, to be present at the *Mass of the Holy Ghost*, which is being celebrated by His Lordship, the Vicar Apostolic of Pontiac, a staunch friend of this Institution; well may I say with the prophet: "Behold, I and my children, whom the Lord hath given me for a sign, and for a wonder."

Under the intelligent and prudent care of your devoted Superior and professors, by the deep study of sciences, by the practice of virtue you shall so be trained in this University as to be a sign of what Catholic education is, and a wonder to all those who shall see the good results it produces.

Aristoteles was proud of Alexander whom he had educated; yet this prince, though he had held the sceptre of Macedonia, could not be saved from death by the poison of Babylon.

I also feel a pride in the students of this my *Alma Mater*, for I know that they are being prepared, as those who have gone before them, to exercise influence, by virtue and science, wherever they may go, and, what is better, that they will never drink the poison of false doctrine, or of erroneous maxims, for here they shall learn true science and pure moral.

My young friends, or rather "my dear children whom the Lord hath given me," I welcome you with all my heart. Your parents did well to send you to a Catholic college; you did well to come willingly—a school like this is really what Catholic youth requires. Here you shall be taught in every useful branch of secular instruction, in the commercial and in the classical course, so that when you have completed the one, you may become good Catholic business men, or when you have gone through the other, you shall be qualified to study any profession that may be best suited to your most legitimate desire and ambition.

I say without hesitation that a Catholic boy should receive his education, if it is at all possible, in a Catholic school and from Catholic teachers.

The question of education is one that has been, and is being discussed in many various and opposite ways; but it cannot be rightly solved, except in strict accordance with the teaching of Mother Church, if education must bear its best fruits.

Solon held that children, from their earliest infancy, should be instructed and brought up by the State to which, he argued, they belonged, rather than to their families. Every reader of ancient history knows what evils resulted from the educational laws of this unadvised legislator. The children were very soon more wicked than their fathers, whose authority was