



EDITORIAL NOTES.

THERE is great talk of pilgrimages to European shrines during the course of the coming summer. In some cases the cost will be very small. But of all the enjoyable, sight-seeing journeys, none will surpass the one that commences and ends on the evening of the 9th May instant. Place of departure, Windsor Hall, Montreal; guide, Rev. J. A. McCallen, S.S.; mode of transportation, a lecture with seventy-five lime-light, stereopticon views; scenes, New York, London, Paris during the siege and the commune, and Rome during the Vatican Council; cost of trip, 75, 50 and 25 cents; plan of vessel, at Shepard's, 2274 St. Catherine street; duration of voyage, between one and two hours; magnificent scenery, interesting monuments, most eloquent *cicerone*, and no trouble about baggage or other customary cares. A rare treat for all who wish to see Europe and enjoy a most instructive evening.

THE Catholic Union and Times of Buffalo, has entered upon its twenty-fourth year. In another twelve months it will have done a quarter of a century's yeoman service in the cause of the Church and in the interest of Catholic journalism. May it go on prospering is our sincere wish. Few men deserve more credit than Rev. Father Cronin for the ability and labor consecrated to the glory of God and good of mankind. His paper is one of the best weeklies on the continent and we hope that the sphere of its usefulness may constantly grow larger.

THE April or Spring number of the American Catholic Quarterly Review has just reached us. It is certainly a quarterly feast of good, solid, serious, high-class literature that the publisher (Charles A. Hardy) presents to the reading world, in each issue of that standard magazine. The table of contents for April speaks volumes. The Oxford scholar, A. F. Marshall, contributes a paper on "The Correlation of Order and Jurisdiction;" Richard R. Elliott presents his third article of the interesting and able series on "Indian Bibliographies;" Rev. Charles Coupe, S. J., treats the all-important question of "Indifferentism." The text and translation of the Encyclical "Longiqua," as well as Rt. Rev. Monsignor Schroeder's comments upon that splendid document fill a number of pages. In fact this issue of the "Quarterly" is equal to any of the past, and that is about as high a commendation as we could give the publication.

We learn that Hupsmans, the French free-thinker and novelist, has come back to the Church, and has abandoned the false and pernicious theories upon which he based so many of the works that won him his great but unenviable reputation. His new work, "En Route," is pronounced by the Catholic Times of Liverpool, "as the history of a repentant soul,"

revealed to the public gaze with relentless candor, and dissected with marvellous skill, * * * a book that will deserve to rank with the greatest autobiographies of literature. It is evident that this writer's conversion to the faith of his childhood is sincere.

LORD JUSTICE FITZGIBBON, speaking recently, at a meeting held under the presidency of the Protestant Archbishop of Dublin, paid a most glowing tribute to the work done by the Christian Brothers. Perhaps a certain fierce critic of that splendid order of teachers might benefit by the perusal of the Judge's remarks. After speaking of the intermediate commercial school that the Protestants were going to start, his Lordship said:

"This was the system that the Christian Brothers had brought to such extreme perfection, because in all their schools every class was weeded out at the end of term, promotion by merit took place, and at the head of every large Christian Brothers' school there was what was called an intermediate school. The result was that last year the Brothers carried off very nearly fifty per cent. of the entire intermediate endowment, by means of boys selected for the most part from the lower classes, and promoted from school to school. These boys were turned out to compete with Protestant boys at an enormous advantage, and were, as he could say from a knowledge of government competitive examinations, beating them all along the line by nothing but good teaching."

Mrs. Regina Armstrong Hilliard, editor and publisher of the Social Graphic, of Memphis, Tenn., a staunch Protestant, speaking of "ex-priest" Slattery's female companion, pays a tribute to the Catholic nuns. Mrs. Hilliard says that she received her own education in a convent, and enjoyed the privilege of seeing the inner life of many such institutions; she knows that self-sacrifice, charity and compassion are domiciled there, and to quote her own words:

"She knows that purity and the beauty of holiness belong to this noble army of women, who, like Christ's apostles of old, go forth bringing balm and mercy and blessing into the lives which need their gentle ministrations, never shirking carnage nor epidemics, but bravely wearing His cross though crucifixion go with it, and ever wearing 'the white flower of a blameless life.'"

WE are in for it this time! A contributor informs us that had he the authority requisite he would excommunicate us for some of our ideas. We are exceedingly glad that he has not the authority requisite to do any such thing; we are also pleased to know that those who possess the authority think diametrically different from our rabid friend. If he don't look out he may find himself excommunicated some fine day, should he ever have the hardihood to express his theories to the public.

THE cost of a modern Church—even that of the greatest of them—is often commented upon as extraordinary. But, what is the outlay for the most expensive

temple of the world compared to the sums spent in building and fitting up Solomon's Temple. The gold, silver and brass used was valued, according to Villapautus, at \$6,879,822,000. The vessels of gold, according to Josephus, cost, in English money, £575,296,203; the vessels of silver cost £649,344,000. The priest's vestments and robes of singers £2,010,000; the trumpets £200,000. Then the labor, materials, etc., of building. Ten thousand men hewing cedar; 60,000 hod carriers; 80,000 stone cutters; 3,300 overseers, during seven years. The materials in the rough were worth £2,555,337,000. Thus in our money the whole cost was \$77,521,665,036. Probably more than the cost of all the churches of the present day put together.

JUDGE GIEGERICH, of New York, having learned that one of a couple, who appeared in court to get married, was a Roman Catholic, urged that a priest should perform the ceremony. The judge is to be highly applauded for his very wise action, and he certainly deserves the thanks of all Christian members of the community. It would be a great blessing to the United States if there were a few more such men on the bench. This curse of civil marriage is growing so rapidly and extending its roots in so many directions, that soon it will undermine the whole social structure. Not until the great crash comes will the world awaken to the fact that the only protection the human race really enjoys is in the sacramental bulwarks of the Church.

GREAT men, famous men, successful men have not always been happy men. Napoleon was very much annoyed on account of his inclination to corpulancy and unwieldiness; Byron was a martyr on account of his reel foot; Nero was near-sighted and had ugly eyes; Mirabeau was a monster of ugliness; Spencer, the poet, suffered from poverty and neglect; Cowper lived in the shadow of insanity; Julius Cæsar was subject to epileptic fits, so was Mohammed; Cervantes was poor and a prey to his creditors; Milton was blind in his old age; Beethoven suffered during the last two years of his life from loss of hearing, the greatest of all afflictions for him; Peter the Great was crazy from drink; Le Sage was very poor all his life; Gibbon was a martyr to the gout; Bacon became such a miser that his passion led him to disgrace; Tasso was so poor that he died mad, a consequence of his miseries; Paterina lived and died in want; Charlemagne suffered from ulcer; Johnson was near-sighted and his face was disfigured by soars from a scrofula; De Foe was repeatedly in prison and in the pillory. Each one these would have gladly bartered his fame for the relief so badly needed—except, perhaps, Napoleon.

THE crown of religious schools of the Netherlands is to be the new Catholic University of Amsterdam, under the

direction of the Jesuits. In the name of liberty, what is Dalton McCarthy about? Here is a field for him. He is only squandering his time, energies, talent and reputation in Canada; why does he not go to Amsterdam and prevent the fearful crime about to be perpetrated by the Jesuits? Actually they intend to educate the people of the Netherlands. They will stop at nothing.

CRISPI would rejoice were the Pope to revoke the *non expedit*, and permit the Catholics of Italy to take part in the political movement; he expects that they would be with his party. But Leo XIII. has no intention of doing any such thing, even to accommodate Signor Crispi. The Roman question must first be settled before any Italian power can be officially recognized by the Vicar of Christ. The political opportunists must act according as circumstances arise; but the Church is in no hurry. Time is a matter of moment to the former; time is of no consequence to the latter. The governments and parties are but of yesterday; the Church has the whole span of ages, from the dawn of Christianity to the sunset of time, at her disposal. The power that can wait and suffer must eventually triumph over the one that is a creature of the hour.

QUITE a checkered career is that of Bishop Brennan, formerly of Texas. In his first years of sacerdotal life he was a missionary in the Erie diocese. He was appointed first Bishop of Dallas, Texas. Thence he was called to Rome and appointed coadjutor of the late Dr. Power, of Newfoundland. On Bishop Howley being appointed to succeed Bishop Power, Bishop Brennan returned to Rome. Now he is assigned a chair in the college which Leo XIII., has established in Constantinople. He is proficient in several modern tongues and is a master of the dead languages; thus he will be in his element in the new college. All these changes have taken place within the past four or five years. Bishop Brennan will bring with him, to his professor's seat a varied and extensive experience of the world.

JUDGE GROSSCUP of Chicago recently condemned two men to prison—one for five and the other for three years—on their being guilty of circulating immoral books and sending them through the mail. In passing sentence, the judge used these words:

"You are vipers, and your crime is second only to murder. I would rather that a rattlesnake came into my house and crawled into my child's couch, than to have your vile literature carried to him."

Well done, Judge Grosscup! You deserve the thanks of the community at large. The press to-day is alive with the lesson taught in England on the question of immoral literature. It is a curse, a poison, a demon.