

He will start again before long, for the region of the Niger, to study more of the native dialects. What he is doing in Africa, is being done in Alaska by Father Barnum, S. J., whose dictionary of the Alaskan dialects will be completed this year and published by the Government.

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The number of volumes in the Vatican library is 220,000, of which as many as 25,000 were published in the fifteenth century. The MS. collection in the Vatican is the largest and most valuable in existence. It contains the famous Codex Vaticanus, the oldest version of the Holy Scripture extant.

Catholic Spain is taking measures to execute a commendable project: the erection of a basilica in honor of Saint Theresa. The Saint's body has remained incorrupt, and is venerated at Alba, where it lies in a church of very impretentious appearance and which Spain now wishes to replace by a magnificent basilica.

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Some weeks ago, the Holy Father received a numerous deputation of the Italian clergy and laity, as well as of the Franciscan and Dominican orders, presided over by His Eminence Card. Parocchi, Vicar General of His Holiness. His Eminence, in the name of the deputation, presented the Holy Father with a large and beautiful ostensorium of the finest gold and thickly encrusted with precious stones. This superb gift was offered as a protestation against the sacrilegious insults shown to the Blessed Eucharist.

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Commenting on the following beautiful words of Dr. Delaney, coadjutor Bishop of Hobart, Tasmania, the Ave Maria says that the appeal for a new edition of the Bible, with annotations supplied by our best modern Biblical scholars, is a timely one; and that it rejoices to find a favorite conviction of its own so trenchantly expressed. It adds that these words having been penned in far-off Tasmania proves that the need of a closer acquaintance with Holy Scriptures is felt around the world.