

criticism, the three great difficulties with this work are : "first that its author cannot be accepted in his self-appointed office of teacher ; next, that he is far from being a great artist ; and lastly, that he does not seem to have mastered sufficiently the philosophy of the passion of love to weave it successfully into the warp of a story of struggling human lives." Under the title, "Irish Local Government Act," the measure lately passed by the British Parliament to improve local government in Ireland is carefully considered. After discussing the benefits to be derived from this Act, he reaches the conclusion that "Out of the knowledge gained in such work of co-operation will arise an opinion which will not merely preserve the rights they have won against tyranny and intrigues of corrupt boards and officials but will enable them to obtain the power by which alone anything considerable can be accomplished to raise the county to a place befitting her natural resources and the qualities of brain and hand with which her children are gifted."

Readers of *Danahoe's Magazine* scarcely expected, we think, such a splendid Christmas number coming as it did immediately after the exceptionally well executed Thanksgiving issue, but all have been agreeably surprised. Every reader of this Catholic monthly confidently turns to its pages expecting to be instructed, interested and entertained ; and certain it is, that he can never lay it down with any sense of disappointment. One of the leading articles of this issue is entitled "Costly Indifference" in which the writer makes an appeal for the greater furtherance of Catholicity in the Western States. It seems that many of the children sent out to the West by Aid Societies, are Catholics ; but through the bigotry of the agents, few of them find their way into Catholic homes and are consequently lost to the faith. Then there is a want of proper facilities for Catholic worship, but these being once provided many of those "ought-to-be Catholics" will ultimately be brought back to the fold. Many Americans will not agree with the course that the author of "Our Duty Respecting the Philippines" advocates. When Freemasonry and all the anti-clerical influences are considered, there is room to doubt that "The people of the Philippines can govern themselves better than we or Spain or any other external authority can govern them." Besides these