

inaugural address, and the few extracts given here will prove how fearless he was as a practical Catholic. He said: "Having completed our organization, our society presents itself to you this evening—its first appearance before the public, and it has been allotted to me to state to you the objects of our association,—its aims and its purposes." Then after stating 'what our society is,' what its parent association had already accomplished in England; that it had the blessing of our Holy Father the Pope, he said; "They aimed to accomplish their objects by attending to three subjects: Devotion, Instruction and Controversy. Having spoken on the first he said: "The second object I have mentioned is instruction. There are, in all communities many Catholics who are quite satisfied to know, that they believe what the Catholic Church believes and teaches. The fact that all the Catholic Church believes and teaches is true, is enough for them. But one of the objects of this society, blessed as I have said by the Holy Father, under the patronage in this place of His Grace the Archbishop, is to impress upon Catholics that, in this age they should do more. In order to the defence of the Catholic religion, in order to put its truths before those who do not understand them, it is necessary that Catholics should, not only believe what the Catholic Church believes and teaches, but should be able to give a reason for what they believe. Everyone who has considered this question knows that the dogmas of our religion are set forth as clearly as the decisions of the legal tribunals of the country. The reasons on which they are founded can be as easily traced as the reasons for the decisions of a court of justice. When Catholics are acquainted with these reasons they are able to defend the truth whenever it is assailed. * * * We proceed upon the principle for which there is the highest authority, that the Catholic who is the best informed, in connection with his religion, is best grounded in the faith and most likely to be zealous in the practice of it. * * *

"But even a more important point in connection with instruction is to place before those who are not Catholics, an accurate and simple statement of what Catholic belief is on the various points, in con