

MY OFFERING.

Oh! Mary, Virgin Mother,
Of all hopes the dearest one,
Thy name, with untold sweetness,
Trembles now on every tongue.

A story in one of the late English magazines is called "Owen, the Milkman." Rather a common-place title. There are so many persons Owlin' the Milkman, you know.

THE SECRET OF SUCCESS.—A Christian merchant, who, from being a very poor boy, had risen to wealth and renown, was once asked by an intimate friend to what, under God, he attributed his success in life.

"To prompt and steady obedience to my parents," was the ready reply. "In the midst of my bad examples of youths of my own age, I was always ready to yield submission to the will of my father and mother, and I firmly believe that a blessing has in consequence, rested upon me and upon all my efforts."

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THE KNIFE GRINDER OF NAPLES.—One day, as an old knife grinder was turning his wheel in a street in Naples a young painter came up to him, and said:
"Do you manage to get enough work to keep you, my good friend, and are you never in want?"
"No, thank God!" replied the knife-grinder. "I get plenty of work, and live in as much comfort as a man in my station need wish for."

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WHAT THE PRESS SAYS.

MCGEE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY.—On what resources, by what degree of encouragement, Mr. Jas. McGee has undertaken to fill this great desideratum in our Catholic literature, we do not know; but assuredly, his undertaking is marked by such a power of energy, discernment, system, and above all, of good taste and artistic genius, that the Illustrated Weekly must need prove a success. Were Mr. McGee to fail, the failure will only be an additional proof to the charge of supineness, indifference and apathy, the seeming consequences of ignorance, a charge often brought against us by our enemies. The late article of December 31st, in the Springfield Republican, should bring shame to the brow of every intelligent Catholic.

Were Mr. McGee's efforts properly appreciated, the circulation of his Illustrated Weekly should, within a twelve-month, amount to at least fifty thousand. This is no exaggeration. Stated only a few weeks ago, we have now before us the fourteenth number, exhibiting, in the whole, the choicest collection of representations, inferior to none in artistic beauty. Mr. McGee's serial will compare most advantageously with the London Illustrated News.

Oh, for decency sake, for the honor of the Catholic name, let us support Mr. McGee's enterprise. It will do honor to the Catholic community. The subscription (three dollars per annum) is so low, that barely two hundred thousand Catholics in the United States can afford to take it. Let every Catholic editor come forward and pay the well-deserved meed of praise and of encouragement. If they see faults and shortcomings, and even shall, in a future, expose them candidly, let them bravely point to them, but in the spirit of kindness and brotherly encouragement. Let us, one and all, remember that the introduction of McGee's Illustrated Weekly may prove the means of eliminating from the Catholic domestic press these abominable periodicals of the New York Press, a most powerful engine in the Devil's hands, which hold to scorn all that is virtuous, all that is Catholic. Can parents, can priests be insensible to the great havoc made in the hearts of our boys and of our girls, by the immoral press of the day? Ah! what a responsibility rests upon parents and priests for the souls of the children of God! Here we have a glorious opportunity of crushing a great moral evil out of our homes. Let us not lose it; but, on the contrary, let us put our shoulders to the wheel, and endeavor to make as wide a place as possible, in our homes, in our parishes, in our missions, wherever we may have any influence, for McGee's Illustrated Weekly.—Cincinnati Catholic Telegraph.

MCGEE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY.—We rejoice to hear that this publication, devoted to Catholic Art, Literature, and Education, which was started in New York last December is succeeding very well, and already enjoys a good share of the patronage it so well deserves. It is a real pleasure to be able to make this statement, on account of the fears entertained when the announcement of a new illustrated Catholic paper was made that it would soon languish for want of support. Fourteen numbers have now been issued, and the steadily increasing circulation is sufficiently large to cover the expenses of publication, great as they must be. A high standard of excellence was assumed in the first numbers, but the Editor assures us that he will make improvements in proportion as the number of subscribers increase. This publication is a valuable addition to Catholic periodical literature in the United States, and supplies a long-felt want. It is thoroughly Catholic (we mention this as a first excellence), and the contents are both varied and entertaining.—As to the illustrations, they are good—many of them very good—and the selection of subjects evinces rare good taste. The paper used is of a superior quality, and the printing could hardly be better. There is ample room for this new journal, and if well supported it will do much to counteract the vicious influence of the many infamous illustrated weeklies with which the country is flooded. The editor and proprietor is James A. McGee, Barclay Street, New York. Subscription price, \$3 per year.—Ave Maria.

MCGEE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY.—It is with great pleasure that we call the attention of our readers, at home and abroad, to this promising Catholic periodical, whose progress we have been watching with much interest, since its first appearance on the 25th of November, 1876. The result of our observation has been eminently satisfactory, and we begin now to hope that a long and prosperous career of usefulness awaits our excellent contemporary. The Illustrated Weekly supplies a want long felt by the Catholic community in this and other climes; its publisher seems willing to spare no cost to make it a success, and for the ability, zeal, and general fitness of the editor, for the onerous task he has undertaken, and which we feel convinced is to him truly a labor of love, we can honestly and sincerely vouch. That our friend who has already done good service as a frequent contributor to the classic pages of the Catholic World, has now extended his sphere of usefulness in this direction, is matter of congratulation to the Catholic public, and we earnestly hope that this effort to establish a really good Catholic journal, in the face of many and great difficulties, will meet with the encouragement it so eminently deserves. It is time that the vile and persistent calumniator of Catholics and their religion, Harper's Weekly, which has been wont to amuse and entertain its thousands of readers with the most disgusting caricatures of all that Catholics hold most sacred, should be taught the useful lesson that the Catholic millions of this country can provide some fitting illustrations of Catholic men and things. Let them be taught that Catholics are not so craven-spirited as they seem to take it for granted that they are, and that the day is gone by when they and their religion lay helpless victims at the mercy of its ribald caricaturists. In the last number of our Illustrated Weekly there is a very good portrait of the true Catholic hero, Don Carlos of Spain, with a sketch of his life and character. Every week there is in it a portrait of some personage deservedly known to fame.—New York Tablet.

MCGEE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY (New York).—This is a really beautifully got up journal. The plates are fully equal to either the London Illustrated News or the Graphic, and very much superior to any Transatlantic picture paper we have ever seen. From a literary point of view McGee's is decidedly the best that has ever reached us from the States. Irish stories are an especial feature and they are admirably told and usually of unflagging interest. The price is only six cents (three pence), and were the paper published in those countries at that figure it would be the cheapest of cheap.—The Celt (Waterford, Ireland).

IRISH-AMERICAN LITERATURE.—Our fellow-countrymen in America seem to be pushing ahead, if the speed of national newspaper literature is to be taken as a test. Our exchanges during the past few weeks have included several numbers of McGEE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY a journal possessing peculiar interests for Irishmen from the fact that it is edited by a brother of the gifted but unfortunate D'Arcy McGee. Colonel James E. McGee has already made an honorable mark in Irish-American literature by his own contributions to it, and the taste and judgment he has already shown in his editorial management of the new weekly promise soon to lift it into the front rank of journalism. The illustrations are of a high artistic order and accompanying letterpress is equally meritorious. Amongst the contributors we notice the name of William Collins, whose gifted pen has given to Irish poetry much to enlarge and enrich it.—United Irishman (Liverpool).

MCGEE'S ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY.—There has been started in New York an illustrated Catholic weekly, which in point of literary style and artistic excellence, affords great promise. Hitherto Harper's Weekly, which is animated by bitter anti-Catholic sentiments, has had almost a monopoly of this branch of journalism. We are glad, therefore, to see the appearance of its youthful rival, for which we do not hesitate to predict a brilliant success.—Cork Examiner.

J. A. MCGEE,
Publisher,
7 BARGLEY STREET, NEW YORK, U. S.

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