

only does the press reproduce and spread abroad speech, it even supplies it. It gives wings to the thoughts of mighty minds, placing them in communication with men of all nations and beliefs. Well has it been said of the press that "it is mightier than the sword."

This is the eloquent tribute of Bishop Grimes of Syracuse, N.Y., to the power of the press. Similar tributes have been paid from time to time by churchmen and laymen, but it is a truth, nevertheless, that the Catholic press amongst our people is lamentably weak and inefficient. There are quite a few good weeklies, but their circulation is limited. To about sixty per cent. the Catholic press is an unknown quantity. They are reading the daily papers and getting their views on religion and all things else from pages which are frequently anything but friendly. Pastors and people are too busy attending to the material up-building to give much time to these things which make for "the exchange of ideas, light and knowledge." Cathedrals, mother-houses, boarding schools, magnificent churches, are going up here and there all over the country. The old altars are being thrown out and new altars being installed. There is always something doing and there is no letting-up as far as the material up-building is concerned. The press, in the meantime, is being sadly overlooked. In many places the diocesan paper is a standing joke. Priests make fun of it and the only people who read it are the devout souls who could not be driven out of the Church with a club. And still we hear it said that all is well and that the