

THE CATHOLIC SHIELD.

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"Scuto circumdabit te veritas ejus."

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THE CATHOLIC SHIELD.

EDITOR'S CARD.

The undersigned begs to inform the patrons of the CATHOLIC SHIELD that he is its sole Editor, and will be responsible for everything appearing in its columns. Having secured the services of some of the most competent writers available in the ranks of the clergy and laity, he can promise an instructive and entertaining journal every month. As to his course, he wishes to say that, in open questions it will be free and independent; in matters of doctrine, directed by the teachings of the Church; in all and towards all, shaped by Charity.

M. J. WHELAN,
Priest.

OTTAWA, June 1st. 1881.

AIM, MEANS, AND FRUITS OF EDUCATION.

The first and chief object of education is to cultivate, develop and direct the mind and heart of youth, so as to enable the intelligence, which was made to see and be nourished by truth, and the will, whose office is to love and practise what is really good, to feed and grow strong on this twofold nourishment of the soul, truth and virtue; or, in other words, to make of the young generation, good, enlightened Christians, to form them after the only perfect model of mankind, Our Lord and Saviour. It is therefore the duty of Parents and Teachers to endeavor to make of the children confided to their care, faithful copies of the Great Master, worthy citizens for earth and heaven; a task truly noble and meritorious, and worthy of their most earnest solicitude and constant care. Education has then for chief object, to instil into the mind and heart of youth, principles and sentiments of honor and uprightness, to induce them to acquire virtuous habits, to correct and repress by gentle persuasive means their vicious inclinations, and to be the safeguard of their innocence.

Another object of education, secondary in importance to the preceding, is to accustom the pupil to serious mental application; to make him esteem and love knowledge; to put him on the path that leads thereunto, teach him how best to make use of this long-sought-for treasure, when acquired, and thus prepare him for whatever station in life Divine Providence has marked out for him. Finally, education has for object to develop the pupil's physical powers, to strengthen his frame by wholesome exercise, that he may be enabled in after-life to support the mental and bodily exertions which his calling may require of him.

Parents and masters will succeed in their laborious, but highly meritorious task, if they train the children confided to their care, to be ever ready at the call of duty, to lend thereunto a willing ear and a ready hand; ever to sacrifice pleasure to duty. By so doing they will secure for them not only success in their studies, but also peace of conscience and genuine happiness, and in the world to come, eternal bliss and glory. If they wish their youthful charge to reap these most desirable fruits, they should themselves practice what they teach. Thus only will their words of counsel and correction have weight. Like St. Paul, they should be able to say: