398 The Messenger of the Sacred Heart.

And what do we find underlying the actual federal constitution but the sectarian spirit, the spirit of Calvun, intensified by all the hatred of Masonry, which is saying all that is to be said.

The iniquitous laws of 1874 bore on the following points: the suppression of the Papal Nunciature, the expulsion of the Jesuits and of the congregations to them "affiliated," the prohibition of religious orders and of the re-establishment of their convents, the secularization of ecclesiastical courts, the extinction of diocesan officialities, and the establishment of neutral schools. Time, it is true, and subsequent amendments softened somewhat the asperities of these measures, but to a degree quite unsatisfactory.

Scant as are these historical data, they suffice to make it clear for our Associates that it would require nothing short of the all-powerful and tender mercies of the Heart of Jesus to reinstate the Swiss Catholics in the full enjoyment of their rights and to bring back to the one true fold so many of their separated brethren.

Tokens are not wanting to show that our hopes are well grounded.

Witness, the *abiding energy of the Catholic Cantons*, which, with one or two exceptions, have since the Sonderbund, and in spite of the persecution of 1873, contrived to elect and maintain in power good governments.

Witness, the *Catholic Union*, recently founded in Luzern, whose aim is to concentrate the scattered forces of the Catholics. We count in its ranks statesmen, whole associations, leagnes of workingmen and alumni societies.

See, moreover, the admirable organization of the press, thoroughly orthodox and acting in perfect unison.

Then again there is the University of Friburg, whose mission amid the darkest shadows of heresy is to restore the lustre of the old Faith of Rome. It is an all-impor-