

the true faith with them. In this grand work of evangelizing the world we again see the utility of the English tongue to them. Evidently God had his own all-wise end in view when He permitted the children of St. Patrick to lose their own language and learn that of the stranger. It is not then the intention of the Irish people to abandon this new form of speech which they have learned and helped to make perfect.

It is an undisputed fact of history that the Irish nation was the home and refuge of civilization and literature when the rest of Europe was plunged in a chaos of savagery, war and rapine. Her scholars went forth into all nations bringing with them the glad tidings of religion and the benign influences of Christian learning. Numerous copies of the works of these Celtic missionaries are still preserved in the libraries of Europe. Who then will deny the benefit to be derived from the study of their language? Will not the student be repaid a hundred fold for his trouble by the important literary discoveries that are certain to be the result of a renewal of interest in the grand old Celtic speech?

It seems to us a mistake that the other peoples of Celtic origin are not invited to share in this effort to revive their common tongue. What about the Scottish Highlanders and the Welsh? They still speak the old Celtic language, and, in many cases, know no other. The differences between the dialects of the three countries are very inconsiderable and combined effort on the part of Scotland, Wales and Ireland in this movement, would undoubtedly ensure its success. By all means we wish it success. May the songs of Ossian and the sweet music of Tara's harp once more blend together as in the days of yore and rouse old Erin's sons to a true appreciation of the glorious place they are destined to occupy among the peoples of the earth.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Mr. Kribbs, an Orangeman, has issued a pamphlet in which the Manitoba school question is considered, historically, legally and controversially. The author claims that national law calls for the recognition, in some form or other, of the claims of Manitoba's minority. The work itself is a thorough resumé of the issue in question from its earliest date. Mr. Kribbs maintains that the remedial proposition was forced upon the Government by the law, and that it follows exactly on the lines of the Privy Council's judgment. Mr. Kribbs thinks parliament is bound to act. The bearing of the New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island school case, upon the present issue, are related and discussed fully and clearly by the writer.

The University of Notre Dame, Indiana, celebrates its Golden Jubilee on the 11th, 12th and 13th of June. Founded fifty years ago by the late Very Rev. Father Sorin, Notre Dame had in the beginning its ups and downs. But the indomitable spirit of its founder and his associates bore up against all adversity, and to-day Notre Dame stands easily first among the Catholic colleges of the United States and able to compete with the best of any denomination. The OWL rejoices in the joy of that great centre of learning, and hopes that its past achievements are but a feeble earnest of the great work it is yet to accomplish in the sacred cause of Catholic education.

Cardinal Gibbons contributes a very readable article to the *North American Review* for May. Its title is "The Preacher's Province." Speaking of the "greater readiness of speech and felicity of expression" of young lawyers in comparison to young priests, His Eminence says:—"The soldier of Christ on emerging from the seminary, is sometimes unwieldy, and is oppressed by the weight of his theological armor till he has acquired practice in the arena of Christian warfare. This disadvantage would be overcome, at least partially, by the more general establishment and cultivation of debating societies for the *senior* classes in our colleges." The italics are ours. The Cardi-