

much gusto as by those for whom they are intended. God alone knows how much good has been done in the little world of her young friends by her charming way of presenting piety in its sweetest aspect. She must have drawn deeply at the founts of which St. Francis of Sales imbibed his cheerful love of God.

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*Rev. Chas. Warren Carrier*, whose reputation as a writer and lecturer is such, that any words of ours cannot increase it, will contribute various essays to the REVIEW in the course of the year. His first paper, "*Shall we Esteem Religious Orders?*" appears in this number. It is a most timely commentary on the General Intention of the League of the Sacred Heart for this month: The welfare of religious communities. The Holy Father, as we personally know, wishes most fervently that all Catholics should esteem religious orders as the highest form of Catholic life and virtue.

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The monthly essays on general topics by *Very Rev. Pius R. Mayer* and the *Talks* by *Marie Louise Sandrock Redmond* will not be continued for the present, but we may expect essays from both during the year.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

BOOKS.

*The Secret Directory*.—A Romance of Hidden History, by Madeleine Vinton Dahlgren. Published by H. L. Kilner & Co., Philadelphia. 330 pages, cloth, illustrated. Price, 75c.

The Anti-Masonic Congress of Trent, the heated discussion going on in the Catholic Press about the revelations of Dr. Bataille and Diana Vaughan, and the evident interference of the lodge in Cuba and the Philippine Islands have aroused an unusual amount of interest concerning the nature of Free Masonry. Mrs. Dahlgren's able exposure of the inner workings of the lodge is a most timely production.

It has the ring of truth in it, albeit clothed in the dramatic mask of a romance. No one interested in this question of the day can afford to pass by this strange book, written with all the eloquence of style and beauty of language which distinguishes the writer. From the first chapters, the scenes of which are placed upon an idyllic background, to the tragic conclusion of the final chapters, the reader is held under the fascinating spell, which the mysteries of science and the gruesome secrets of wicked conspiracy exercise over the mind. Gypsy traditions, Jewish machinations, hypnotism up to date, and above all, the degrading and blasphemous rites of Masonry are all delineated by a master-hand, and the picture fills one with horror and disgust. As a contrast, the noble and Christian heroism of self-sacrifice for truth and God is portrayed in the history of two Monks. The United States flag, alas, is seen to do service in the un-American doings of the lodge, and shows how hostile to all true liberty are the aims of secret societies.

*Cochem's Explanation of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass*, with a preface by the Right Rev. Camillus P. Maes, D. D., bishop of Covington. Published by Benziger Bros., New York, bound in cloth, 424 pages—(\$1.25.)

The inexhaustible treasury, open to all sinners and just in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, is explained fully in this popular book. It is written in such a devout spirit, is so full of heavenly doctrine, and so well calculated to draw souls to the altar, that we feel grateful for its appearance in an English dress. Our people need just such an explanation surrounded as they are by the indifference of the present age, and breathing the atmosphere of self-indulgence, which is the fame of our modern life, they lose regard for the great sacrifice of love daily renewed upon our altars. Our young people hardly seem to know the meaning of Holy Mass, few of them know how to assist at it. The number of those who make use of this most powerful means to obtain all things desirable, is daily growing less. The beautiful Catholic custom of having Masses said for the living and the dead is dying out. No book could appear at a more opportune moment, and it is to be