

REVUE DE LA LITTÉRATURE

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THE ECHO OF CLAIRVAUX.

"Crescat Scientia."--Pio Nono.

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OUR MISSION.

"I bless with great heartiness all who aid in diffusing books of small size, in which the People will have an antidote to preserve them against the implicity of the perverse and filthy press."--PIUS THE NINTH.

At the first blush, we candidly own that, in undertaking to publish our tiny Monthly, we chiefly seek our own advantage. First, we earnestly wish, in our humble way, to become worthy of participating in the Benediction of Pius the Ninth upon all those engaged in works of this kind; secondly, we believe that in thus taking a hold of the first "work which our hand finds to do," we are carrying out a Divine precept which embosoms withal the consoling assurance that we "shall not go wanting for all things necessary."

That there is a need of something of this sort, no honest Catholic can deny; yet far be it from us the vanity to suppose that THE ECHO OF CLAIRVAUX is going to supply all that is needed. We aim merely at a beginning, encouraged by the assurance of the philosopher *Dimidium facti habet qui coepit*. We know right well that this ecclesiastical province offers a splendid field for the publication of a first-class Quarterly or Monthly; but while no such literary lamp as yet illumines our pathway, we humbly submit that, as for ourselves and the few who will choose kindly to smile on our effort, we must be excused if, in the prevailing darkness, we snatch at the first means to hand--be it but the veriest rush-light--to direct our steps. With St. Bernard, we hold that "the necessity which compels excuses us."

Of course, we shall start on our own responsibility--"to sink or swim, as heaven pleases." Without party,

special patrons, or the aid of any one, we purpose to run the ECHO OF CLAIRVAUX altogether on our own hook, careful only of three things, to wit, [1] that it never offend in the least particular against sound Catholic faith and morals; [2] that it always contain something in harmony with that literature which Pius IX had in view when he blessed its promoters; [3] that we exert our utmost to make it at least worth its cost.

Thus purposing, we believe the Monthly should be a welcome visitor into Catholic families. Under the heads of Religion, Education, and Literature, suitable articles, original and selected, will be given.

Having special reasons for grateful devotion to the Immaculate Mother of God and to that other model for Christian mothers St. Monica, our readers will appreciate our happy privilege in being able to issue our first number in the beautiful month of May, so dear to the Virgin and St. Monica.

We adopted the name of THE ECHO OF CLAIRVAUX, not because we wish to make it the organ of the Monastery or Convent, but in gratitude to God for graces received in the Petit Clairvaux of the saintly Father Vincent and Father Francis.

We need hardly add, therefore, that we place ourselves and THE ECHO OF CLAIRVAUX under the powerful patronage of the Ever-Blessed Virgin and St. Monica.

MEN are every day saying and doing, from the power of education, habit and imitation, that which has no root whatever in their serious convictions.--*Channing.*

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