

Caxton, the father of the English press, down to the present time, Catholics have ever made use of this powerful lever for the advancement of the people. For the last forty years, since which time journalism has become a real profession, Catholic news papers have kept pace with their non-Catholic contemporaries. In Europe and in America Catholic editors and contributors to magazines occupy the foremost places in the ranks of the profession.

But not on the editors alone devolves the duty of maintaining the high standard of the Catholic press. Since the usefulness and excellence of the press is so evident, it is manifestly the duty of every Catholic to accord to it his generous support. Every man is, to a certain extent, his brother's keeper and he must look to it that so powerful a means of spreading truth is assisted in every possible way. His duty does not consist merely in paying his subscription, and, as frequently happens, in permitting his paper to remain for days unopened. It is incumbent on him to avail himself of the good therein afforded, and by fitting himself to appreciate good Catholic literature, to lend his influence towards the maintenance of a sound and elevated Catholic press.

THE REVIVAL OF THE CELTIC TONGUE.

The great political contest in Ireland has recently lost much of its fierceness and the intelligence of the nation is turning its attention to new and more congenial fields of labor. As the political issues are becoming more and more definitely settled, literary and scientific pursuits are being enabled to push themselves to the front and to command the attention of great numbers of brilliant young minds. By no means the least noticeable feature of this intellectual movement is

the grand effort that is being made to revive the Celtic language. This attempted revival is not the mere fanciful dream of a few over-ardent patriots, but on the contrary is a movement that has fair promise of success.

We are informed that the number of schoolmasters who obtained certificates to teach Irish doubled during the past year, and for the same period the sale of books in the Irish language was far greater than anything hitherto heard of. In the United States an attempt is being made to establish a chair for the Irish language in the Catholic University of Washington. But it may be asked: What is to come of all this? Do the Irish people and their descendants intend to drop the language they have been speaking for centuries and return to one they have well nigh forgotten? By no means. The Irish people have already left the impress of their national character on the English language and literature, and they have no intention of now abandoning that language with which they have long since become identified. Their country has produced a Burke, a Sheridan, a Grattan and an O'Connell, men unsurpassed in the use of the English tongue; and indeed in no part of the world where English is spoken have Irishmen taken a secondary rank in the use of our common language. If then for no other reason than simple respect for these their greatest statesmen and patriots Irishmen will ever cherish, and ever be proud to speak the English language. But they have many other reasons for remaining faithful to the English tongue. In their long political struggle it was a special providence to them that they spoke a language universally known. Otherwise what poor headway would their cause have made. Now Ireland's children are to be found in all quarters of the globe carrying the light of