



The Eucharistic Congress at New York

IF we wish to form an adequate idea of the magnificence of the Eucharistic Congress recently held in New York, it is necessary to outline the proportions of the sumptuous setting amid which those imposing ceremonies were carried out.

All the world knows that with its population of three millions, its first class harbor, its commercial and industrial establishments, colossal in number, its innumerable means of communication with Europe as well as America, etc., the City of New York is unquestioningly the metropolis of the great Republic. But what is not so well known, nay, often ignored, is that the Diocese of New York, like that of Malines and of Cologne, possesses the largest Catholic population. In this modern Babylon where unlimited cosmopolitanism holds sway, there reigns nevertheless an intense supernatural life and even those who the previous eve were completely adsorbed behind a counter, desk or bank grating, hasten on Sunday to fulfil their duties to the God of the altar in churches and chapels crowded with devout worshippers. This is not astonishing as the population of New York is principally Catholic.

The Diocese of New York alone counts 1,200,000 Catholics and 75,500 children attending free Catholic schools.