

Notes on Books and Other Things.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE RELIGIOUS ORDERS.

We regret very much that we cannot print in full the magnificent sermon delivered by Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia on the occasion of the investiture of Cardinal Martinelli with the insignia of the cardinalate. One extract from His Grace's remarks deserves to be written in letters of gold. Speaking of the enemies of the Religious Orders the great prelate said :

"The religious orders, to one of the oldest of which Cardinal Martinelli belongs, have always been most dear to the heart of the church. She legislates wisely for their internal government and their relations with bishops and the secular clergy and defends them when attacked by the enemies of religion. The present attitude of Leo XIII. in their defense in France is the historic attitude of the Roman Pontiffs. To many non-Catholics it must appear a puzzle and a scandal that educated Catholics should exhibit so deadly a hostility to them as to legislate their destruction. But such non-Catholics should bear in mind that this hostility is not so much against the religious orders as it is against religion itself. They hate the orders with the hatred that Christ prophesied the world would hate His followers. Some of these enemies profess comparative friendship for the secular clergy, but we, bishops and priests, resent the insult of such a friendship, and shall stand shoulder to shoulder with the brave army of the cross (the religious orders) who fight the battles of Jesus Christ. These soldiers are dear to us, and they to Him, and with them we stand or fall ! This comparative friendship towards us is hypocrisy, and we well know that when they should have destroyed the orders

they would at once fall on us, as their fathers did on the secular clergy in the French Revolution. We should also bear in mind the most of the present persecutors of the church are men who did not receive Catholic training and are members of secret orders condemned by the church."

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AVE CARDINALIS !

The following beautiful acrostic, by the Rev. George Meyer of Bayonne, N.J., formerly of Erie diocese, was laid at the plate of each guest at the dinner which followed the investiture of Cardinal Martinelli at Baltimore on May 8th :

"Ad multos annos !" gratulor,
Vel centies si dicerim
Et tamen non exprimerem
Consensum cleri gaudium.

Ab omni parte patriae
Respondet vox laetitiae
De magnis Tuis meritis
In Urbe Aeterna cognitis.

Nam multo nobis proficis
"Alter Ego Pontificis"
Laborans cum justitia
In pacem, pro Ecclesia

"Sauviter in modo" Tu !
Manebas sine strepitu,
Auriga cum elementia
Regebas in America.

Te nunc Biretta induit,
Integritatem potuit
Non magis vitae agnoscere
Et gratiam Papa ostendere.

Laudemus ergo maximum
Leonem, Papam optimum
"In coelis lumen" splendidum,
Ab Urbe et Orbe cognitum ;
Vel saltem in America
Est fides Illi maxima.

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