

Religion gives a meaning to life. It provides fortitude to endure trouble, humility to stand prosperity, hope for death, light for the grave and the expectation of a joyful immortality.

The fifteenth centenary of the death of St. Ambrose, the great doctor, whose learning and sanctity have illumined the church of Milan, Italy, will be celebrated this year. He died in 397.

December 8, Brothers Stanilas and Aloysius took the three simple vows of poverty, chastity and obedience; and Brother Thomas vowed the same for three years. May they live long enough to make their solemn profession and may they then persevere till the end.

St. Bede's Literary Society.

In the July issue the *ADVOCATE* advertised to its readers the existence of a society born under the same roof as he. We thought we would afford some pleasure to our readers if we would tell them something about what has been baptized as "St. Bede's Literary Society."

Well, dear readers, St. Bede's has been gradually putting away, ever since its birth, the usual swaddling bands that shroud in humility and restraint every being that first ushers into the world.

It has ever been growing under the invigorating sunshine of youthful aspirations, and during the last three months has attained gigantic proportions. None need either ruffle his shoulders or brand such prosperous health as a "fake." St. Bede's literary bloom is by no means a "fake." Unlike the beautiful blossom of summer, the admiration of the traveller today, the dust that will cling to his shoes to-morrow, St. Bede's was destined from its very cradle to bravely

withstand the stormy days of many a conflict. Unlike sturdy battalions, citadels of strength in the day of union, weakly individuals in the day of separation, St. Bede's is constituted of members closely united both in times of peace and of war.

Still in the age of their minority, St. Bede's members are busy in storing up weapons and waiting for the great day when the bugle of war shall call upon them to join their elder brothers in the field. We are able already to point at the kind of warfare which will engage their tactics and their courageous souls, reserving for their brows many a glorious laurel. Those wars will be wars on "Humbugism." A powerful empire indeed is "Humbugism." It extends its sway all over the world, but seems to have located its capital in our Land of Liberty, and that's where St. Bede's will lay the first siege.

I will not tell of the mischief caused by this perfidious enemy in the domains of profane sciences. The protests of despair of the true scientific men loudly attest the fact; but, where its adepts live on the fat of the lamb are the vast plains of History, the narrow passes of Philosophy, whilst it takes its shelter in the sanctuary of Religion.

Now the members of St. Bede's are reconnoitering the foothold of the enemy on these grounds. We even had the pleasure to witness, but a short time ago, the valorous dexterity of one among them on the plains of History. In the height of his pride the enemy presented himself before him with an array of formidable frauds on the Spanish Inquisition; but he, undaunted and throwing his gauntlet down, unmercifully drives the foe to recesses unknown, shutting against him all future access to the same spot. Others have taken their stand in the sanctuary of Religion, and one place has already capitulated, securing to the Catholics an oasis of hope between the tropical