

GOVERNOR TAFT will not thank the enterprising sectarians who have nominated him, jointly with the slippery Aguinaldo and the renegade Buencamino, among the honorary presidents of the "Philippine Catholic Church," a new sect founded expressly for the benevolent assimilation of the Filipino soul. The name, writes *The Ave Maria*, is the only impressive feature of the new enterprise which has not been taken seriously even by the secular press. Says the *Boston Transcript*: "We do not think that the Pope will be at all disturbed by the news, or that the Cardinals will discuss it in whispers. It looks like an impudent little challenge from an impotent source—in fact, so contemptible that it is likely to die a-borning, without even receiving the honor of an obituary." This is treating the new venture a little too cavalierly; the new "church" may at least be hailed as a symptom of civilization. The Filipino, having learned to swear, get drunk and found new religions, may be esteemed as fully "up-to-date" as the rest of the world.

THE advocates of secularist schools consider that instruction in the three R's—reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic—would be the remedy for all the woes and a sufficient training for most American citizens. The Jesuit Father Pardow points out that the Catholic Church has no objection to the three R's; it only wants four R's instead of three. It wants *Religion*, reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic; for education without religion is a total eclipse of the soul; hence the Catholic public is becoming more and more convinced of the necessity of Christian education for the moulding of character in the youth of to-day. If he is to be given a training that will make him the best man and the best citizen, with the knowledge to see the right and a conscience to do it, there is no alternative but to teach him the things of God in the school-room. It seems the parents will not do it, the Sunday-school will not do it, the pulpit can not do it. The school alone can do it. The