Taking Credit From The Creditors.

Thanks to the officers of the Sophomore Class, Father Shea's Fund profited by $29.25, proceeds of the Cotillion. In addition, some of the boys of Brownson Hall have collected $3.53 for Father Shea. These and other contributions now make his total $100. And the Father Shea Fund is still open to inflowence.

First Answer to Empty Tomb.

Question X. What's the evidence for the Resurrection?

Answer. (Continued) To the challenge of the empty tomb there are broadly speaking three lines of reply.

There is the reply fantastic, that Jesus was buried in a common tomb of criminals and His body lost. This theory made its appearance, I believe, for the first time in the present century.

Now the Christian cannot be expected to refute coercively every theory however fantastic. We cannot refute a man who says that a vulture flew into the tomb, picked up the body of Jesus in its beak and deposited the body in the sea.

In every criminal prosecution the defense puts up some kind of alternative theory. The prosecution is under no obligation to refute every alternative theory however fantastic. The traditional formula in the English courts is that the jury must bring in a verdict of "guilty" if they have no "reasonable doubt" that the prisoner is guilty. Not, mark you, "no doubt" or even "no conceivable doubt," but "no reasonable doubt."

All we claim is that there is no "reasonable doubt" that Christ rose from the dead so we need not waste time refuting fantastic alternatives for which no shred of evidence is offered.

It is moreover a sound canon of historical criticism to go back to the contemporary documents and discover, if we can, the theory which was put forward at the time by those who were most anxious to discredit and refute the theory which is now in dispute. The Pharisees were very able men. They knew exactly what they could get away with. They could certainly not have got away with the theories invented by ingenious modernists who feel no need to support their views with evidence. The Pharisees who had every inducement to discredit this pestilential heresy must certainly have wracked their brains to discover the best line of attack on the Resurrection claim. And I do not think we need waste time over any theory but theirs.

Now the Pharisees said that the disciples stole away the body.

Question XI. What is the answer to the theory that the disciples stole the body of Jesus from the tomb?

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Follow up Monsignor Sheen's memorable lectures on Communism by reading Father Furfey's "Fire On The Earth." This startling new book (now in your library at 117 Dillon Hall) will inspire the positive social philosophy of many a modern Catholic.

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PRAYERS: (deceased) John Eggeman, '00; father of Fathers Thomas and Patrick Duffy, Ill, Albert Frisbie and his mother; father of A. Jarret (Dil.); Tim Kearns (seriously ill) friend of J. Stulb (Dil.); John Sheehan. One special intention.