

## ST. MARY'S CONVENT NELSON.

(From an Occasional Correspondent.)

A VERY enjoyable entertainment was given at the close of the Michaelmas term by the young ladies attending the high and select schools. The occasion for which it took place was to celebrate the feast of the Rev. Mother St. Michael, and this of itself became a new motive to have them all enter heart and soul into it, and so make it turn out to be a great success.

The subjects of the various scenes were most appropriate, and the characters were aptly represented by the young lady pupils, all of whom most creditably went through their respective parts and gave universal satisfaction to all present.

The story of Queen Esther as related in the Book which bears her name, was successfully gone through, Misses Hollis and Everett representing King Assuerus and Queen Esther respectively, the latter having as maids of honour Misses Broad and Edwards. The fatal end of Aman, through the snare he had prepared for Mardochei was carefully evinced by Misses Love, Edwards and Wymond.

"A friend in need is a friend indeed" became the subject of another scene which was a means of bringing some more new faces on the stage, the principal ones being, however, Misses Corrigan, Kennedy, Bolton, and Nathan, who went by the name of the "orphan ieece May." But none so truly realised the character to be brought to light as Miss E. Ward who, weighed down with years, and standing as it were on the brink of the grave represented old Mr. Smith to perfection, while Betsy (Miss Gough), as the general attendant, showed the duties of her humble station, by her wonderful industry.

The third part opened with that of a piece known as "Germaine Cousin," which though a novel in its way took wonderfully well. Misses Hollis and Corrigan represented Germaine and Laurence Cousin, but they could not hold a light to Germaine's stepmother, (Miss Shiels,) more especially in scolding, what stepmothers are generally noted for. Misses McCarthy, Stevens, Symes, Levi, Bolton and Nathan went through their parts with much success.

The entire programme wound up with a most laughable farce, which commenced by way of a dispute about a singing lesson by two little dwarfs, Mr. and Mrs. Jones. They were represented by Misses Hollis and Shiels, and elicited much laughter by the natural manner in which each disputed this right.

At intervals some beautiful music, both vocal and instrumental, was rendered to perfection; the Misses Edwards' duet, "The Pretty Birds," and Miss Wymond's song, "Sweet Home," demanding much applause. But the most attentively listened to was the song, "Her Bright Smile," by Misses Broad and Edwards, both very young and yet no way abashed, going through it without the least fault. Miss Bolton's (piano prize) "La Voix du Ciel," and Miss Kennedy's duet, (waltz) showed much taste and skill.

On the whole much credit is due to the young ladies and to their superiors for the manner in which one and all acquitted themselves in the execution of their respective parts, as was shown by the general feeling of all present.

A ceremony of a more imposing character took place in the same convent a few days after on the Feast of the Angel Guardians, the taking of the religious habit by two young ladies into the noviciate of the Order of the Missions. Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Mahony, at the end of which he delivered a short but very appropriate address on the nature and importance of the ceremony about to take place. The Rev. Father Garin then proceeded to bless and hand over the Habits, the Sisters singing the various anthems and pieces proper to the occasion with wonderful perfection. The Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, in the evening brought the affecting ceremony to a close.

## WELLINGTON CATHOLIC BAZAAR.

(New Zealander, October 10th.)

As announced, the bazaar at the Academy of Music, in aid of St. Mary's Convent Schools was opened yesterday afternoon by Lady Robinson. There was a fashionable attendance, and the display of goods was most attractive. The following ladies presided at the stalls:—Mrs. Grace, Mrs. Burns, Miss Johnston, Miss Jessie Johnston, and Miss Cooper; Mrs. Allen, Misses Kennedy and Allen; Mrs. O'Shea, Mrs. Devine and Miss Catley; Mrs. Saunders; Mesdames O'Meara and Maginnity; Mrs. Sharp, Misses O'Neill and Durie. There was a refreshment stall, presided over by Mrs. Cimino, and Miss M. Allen had charge of a stall laden with toys and *bijouerie*. There was in the display of goods throughout the building an infinite variety, and most noticeable some exquisite hand painting, the work of the reverend mother of the Convent. The chief attraction, as usual on such occasions, was the distribution of art union prizes, and in this department there was a continuous and cheery chink of silver. There was, especially in the evening when a throng of visitors set in, some brisk business transacted at the stalls, giving satisfactory assurance that the praiseworthy efforts of the promoters of the bazaar will result in a financial success. During the afternoon, the band of the Naval Brigade played a choice selection of music. The Bazaar will be open to-day and to-morrow, from 3 to 10 p.m., and visitors may be assured that whether they wish to purchase, or merely join in the throng of admirers of the display, their tastes will be equally gratified.

11th instant.

The Convent bazaar, held in the Academy of Music, to which we referred previously, was kept open yesterday, and the fair amateur saleswomen had no occasion to complain of the trade they attracted. To-day is the last day of the bazaar, and we are sure that a large number of persons of all denominations will visit it, and at the same time cheerfully consent to be plundered to some degree in such a good cause.

(New Zealand Times.)

The Catholic Bazaar, of which we gave some particulars in our terday's issue, was formally opened yesterday afternoon by his

Excellency the Governor and Lady Robinson. There was a very large attendance at that time, and this was very greatly increased in the evening, when the Academy was crowded, and the ladies at the various stalls, whose names have been already given in this journal, were busily occupied in emptying the pockets of those present, and transferring a considerable amount of cash to the fund in aid of which the bazaar is being held. There were on exhibition and for sale a large number of articles worthy of mention, and we might especially refer to a handsome embroidered chair worked on white cloth, which was displayed on the stall of Mrs. Saunders, also a raised wool ottoman, which was much admired, and a bedstead in brass, manufactured in Melbourne by Messrs. Danks and Co., the furniture of which was made by a young lady resident in Wellington. The bazaar last night was highly successful in every way. It will be continued to-day and to-morrow.

(Evening Post, October 9th.)

The bazaar in aid of St. Mary's Convent Schools was opened at the Academy of Music to-day by Lady Robinson. The little theatre presented an exceedingly attractive appearance, with the bright display of ornamental goods and the tasteful drapery and floral decorations of the stalls. Altogether, the ladies who have been working so indefatigably for the success of the bazaar for a very long time past have every reason to be congratulated on the result of their efforts. Stalls were taken by the following ladies:—Mrs. Grace, assisted by Mrs. Burns, Miss Johnston, Miss Jessie Johnston, and Miss Cooper; Mrs. Allen, assisted by the Misses Kennedy and Allen; Mrs. O'Shea, assisted by Mrs. Devine and Miss Catley; Mrs. Saunders; Mesdames O'Meara and Maginnity; Mrs. Sharp, assisted by the Misses O'Neill and Durie. There was a refreshment stall, presided over by Mrs. Cimino, and Miss M. Allen had charge of a stall laden with a varied assortment of children's toys, &c. Want of space prevents us from describing in detail all the articles worthy of notice which call for the attention of the visitor. No one can fail to be struck, however, with the very charming specimens of hand-painting contributed by one of the Sisters of the Convent. An illumination, which was one of the prizes in the Art Union, was simply perfect in its delicacy of execution, and some hand-painted d'oyleys by the same talented lady, attracted general admiration for their artistic excellence. We might also mention that on Mrs. Grace's stall were to be seen some "tea cloths" (a very ugly name for such charming specimens of needle work), beautifully embroidered by the Hon. Lady Robinson. Some noticeable specimens of china were also to be seen on this stall. We might also speak of the handsome crewel-work of Mrs. Saunders, the attractive display of goods on Mrs. O'Shea's stall, the artistically-executed tapestry of Mrs. Sharp, the unique Queen Anne table of Mrs. Allen; but where there are so many articles to attract attention, it is not safe to venture into details. The Art Union prizes were varied and numerous, ranging from a gold watch to a washing machine, and excited considerable attention. Great curiosity was manifested respecting a mysterious chamber of "curiosities," presided over by Mrs. Clifford, the honorary secretary to the Ladies' Committee, attention to which was directed by an inscription in six different languages—English, French, German, Italian, Maori, and Hindustani. There were also telegraphic instruments, kindly lent by Dr. Lemon; an electric battery, contributed by Dr. Mirbach; and a number of other attractions too numerous to particularise. During the afternoon the band of the Naval Brigade enlivened the proceedings with some excellent music.

## THE ANTONELLI WILL CASE.

(From the Dublin Freeman.)

A TELEGRAM from Rome announces that the lengthened litigation between the Brothers Antonelli and the Countess Lambertini has terminated in the Roman Court of Appeal by a decision in favour of the Antonelli and against the Countess, who having been beaten in the courts below appealed from their decision, and has now had her appeal refused with costs. Thus has terminated the famous Antonelli Will Case, which it was at one time predicted would bring disaster and disgrace on the Court of Rome, the memory of one of its Princes, and, indeed, the Catholic Church at large. The facts of the case are few and simple. Cardinal Antonelli inherited from his father a large patrimonial estate, and by his will he left this estate to his brothers and nephews. Before many months elapsed after the death of the Cardinal a claimant appeared for his estate in the person of a Roman lady of rank, the Countess Lambertini. About the birth of this young lady a great mystery hung, but she was possessed of some fortune, and was wedded to one of the Roman noblesse. The case which the Countess set up was that she was the daughter of Cardinal Antonelli by an unknown lady of rank, and if she proved this case she would have been entitled, under the laws of Italy, to a great portion of the Cardinal's estate, for the Code Napoleon does not allow the disinheriting by a father even of his illegitimate children. When the Countess appeared on the scene Protestant England received her case with a shout of confidence and delight. No one questioned the guilt of the Cardinal, and we were assured by the Roman correspondents of English papers that the story rested upon proof which placed its accuracy beyond question. In the fulness of time the case of Lambertini v. Antonelli ripened into trial, and was investigated before the Roman Court of First Instance. The judges of the Italian Kingdom are not inclined to view churchmen living or dead with special favour, but in the Italian courts are some magistrates of great learning and love of justice, and the *cause celebre* got from the court a fair trial. The result is known to every one. The story of the Countess and her witnesses was thoroughly investigated, and, as all the world knows, the result was that it was shattered to atoms, and that it was satisfactorily shown that there was not one word or shadow of truth in the charges against the dead Cardinal. The Court unanimously gave a decision against the Countess, and that lady having appealed from the decision, the Supreme Court of the Kingdom, as already stated, confirmed the decision of the Court below. In a word, the myth has been relegated to the limbo of lying stories of which the tale of Pope Joan is the type. The