

cault's Myles na Coppaleen was as usual perfect, and the manner in which he played the very different part of Kerry served well to display the versatility of his talents. A better representation of the garrulous old man could not possibly have been given, and we doubt as to whether we shall ever again see anything approaching it even remotely. Mrs. Boucicault as Anne Chute is probably seen at her best. It would at least be difficult to imagine a finer piece of acting, and it alone entitles her to take a first rank in the dramatic world. In every representation, however, given by her in Dunedin, she conclusively proved her right to a high place as an actress. The season as a whole proved successful in the highest degree, and it is acknowledged on all sides that, great as were the expectations entertained, they were even more than fully realised.

THE annual examinations of pupil teachers attached to St. Joseph's school, Dunedin, and St. Patrick's, South Dunedin, were concluded at the Dominican Convent High School on Tuesday, when his Lordship the Bishop distributed the prizes. A searching *ex a parte* examination was also conducted by the Bishop in geography and Latin, and by the Rev. Brother Dowdall in English grammar—parsing, and analysis. The girls—the Misses Ritchie, Murphy, Hanning and Moloney—acquitted themselves in excellent style, notwithstanding the embarrassment arising from the presence of several visitors, and the results of the whole were very satisfactory. A number of exercise books containing the written work of the young ladies examined also testified highly to their diligence and acquirements, and all those who were present expressed themselves highly pleased with what they had witnessed.

ON Sunday, the Feast of All Saints, Pontifical High Mass was celebrated at St. Joseph's Church, Dunedin, at 11 a.m., his Lordship the Bishop acting as celebrant, with the Rev. Fathers Walsh and Lynch as deacon and sub-deacon respectively. On the conclusion of the Mass, the Bishop announced to the congregation his approaching departure for Sydney to attend the Synod, to open there on the 13th inst under the presidency of his Eminence the Cardinal Archbishop. His Lordship said that matters of vast importance to the colonies and to religion would be discussed and transacted, and he asked for the prayers of his people that the Divine guidance might be fully accorded to the deliberations of the assembled Prelates. The Bishop also recommended to his congregation the interests of the cathedral building, which it was proposed to open in the commencement of February, when Cardinal Moran and the Archbishop of Melbourne, with the Bishops of Auckland and Wellington, had promised to be present. His Lordship also hoped that other bishops would come over for the occasion from the Australian colonies. He particularly requested that the Catholics of Dunedin would continue their liberality towards the weekly collections which had formed so to speak, the backbone of the whole undertaking.—On Monday, the Feast of All Souls, a High Mass of Requiem and solemn Office for the Dead were celebrated as usual—his Lordship the Bishop, with the Rev. Fathers Purton, O.S.B., Walsh and Lynch, taking part in the ceremonies.

In another place we borrow an excellent article on religious incendiarism from our contemporary the Wellington *Post*. We regret, however, that our contemporary should have classed Father Hennebery with the incendiaries named by him. Father Hennebery in no way attacked the creed or conduct of any Christian sect, and although we admit that he alluded in language more forcible than polite, and which might, perhaps, have been better omitted, to the Free thought lectures being delivered in Dunedin at the time, by Mr. Charles Bright,—and called that lecturer "an awful man," he did but comment on what was reported in the daily papers, and give his opinion rather freely concerning it.—There was, however, nothing incendiary in what he said.—He also condemned mixed marriages,—but not in the manner understood by a certain section of the colonial Press, which mistook and misrepresented his meaning grievously,—and the only other point on which he expressed himself, so as to call out a vigorous remonstrance, was that of secular education, which he accused of bringing about a most undesirable state of things in America.—His statements as to the condition of American society, we may add, were corroborated almost immediately by the disclosures attending on a certain arrest and suicide that took place in New York. Father Hennebery, we maintain, cannot be fairly accused of having said even one word to excite the ill-will of his Catholic hearers against their Protestant neighbours.—As to the allusion made by our contemporary to the possible condition of convent life in America, he is of course, not bound to defend it against foul and brutal charges, and his article is otherwise most generous and liberal. But he will, we are convinced, admit that such noble conduct as that, for example, shown by the members of the religious communities of the States two or three years ago, during the outbreak of yellow fever in the South, is a sure index of what the life of the nuns must be at ordinary times, and a convincing proof given to all people of decent minds. If the convent life be secluded, we say again, its nature is revealed in America as elsewhere,—whenever some public necessity draws the nun out from her cloister to minister at her own imminent risk to those in distress, and to show herself fully prepared to undertake and accomplish whatever may be demanded of her in the cause of humanity. Anyone who will deny this in all sincerity must necessarily be of weak intellect and deserving merely of pity. We should hardly feel justified in thanking our contemporary for his excellent article, since it is only what we should expect to find in any honourable newspaper, and simply does justice to the high position occupied by the *Post*.

DUNEDIN CATHOLIC LITERARY SOCIETY.

THE Dunedin Catholic Literary Society made a new departure last Friday evening, when, in the place of the usual business, the members with the assistance of some young ladies of the congregation, gave a short literary and musical entertainment in the large room of the Christian Brothers' school. The room was crowded to excess, and the entertainment passed off very successfully. The principal item was the reading of an amusing original story by Mr. Haughton, satirising the usual run of Christmas stories, and entitled "My Christmas Story." The musical items by the ladies were very much enjoyed by the audience, judging by the hearty applause which greeted each of the performers. Miss Conway, who seemed to be in excellent voice, gave "When the Leaves Begin to Turn" in very good style. "The Blue Alsatian Mountains" was very nicely rendered by Miss O'Driscoll; and Miss Wood sang "The Bouqueterie" in her usual pleasing style. Recitations were given by Messrs Power and Hayes; and a reading by Mr. Callan in that gentleman's best style. Mr. Hall sang "The Old Brigade," and Miss O'Driscoll and Mr. Deehan gave a duet on the piano and violin, which proved one of the most enjoyable items of the evening. The Rev. Father Lynch proposed, and Mr. J. J. Connor seconded, a vote of thanks to the performers. The Rev. W. Burke, the president, in acknowledging the vote of thanks tendered to him as chairman, said that the entertainment was only the initiatory one of what was intended to be a series of reunion of the members of the Society and of the whole congregation. The members had wished to bring their society before the notice of the congregation; and he hoped that the interest manifested in them that evening would result in increased membership and renewed support of what was a useful and necessary institution. The ordinary meeting will be held this evening, when the debate on "The Monarchical and Republican Systems of Government" will be continued.

DOMINICAN CONVENT, DUNEDIN, PUPIL TEACHERS' EXAMINATION.

PRIZE LIST.

ENGLISH—Misses Murphy and Ritchie. Arithmetic—Miss Murphy. Latin—Miss Hanning. Algebra—Misses Murphy, Ritchie and Hanning. Geography—Misses Murphy and Ritchie.

Percentage of Marks obtained at the previous written examinations:—English—Misses Murphy and Ritchie, each 95 per cent.; Miss Moloney, 79.1 per cent.; Miss Hanning, 70 per cent. Arithmetic—Miss Murphy, 91 per cent.; Miss Ritchie, 83.1 per cent.; Miss Hanning, 82.9 per cent.; Miss Moloney, 66.2 per cent. Latin—Miss Hanning, 95.8 per cent.; Miss Murphy, 93.9 per cent.; Miss Moloney, 92 per cent.; Miss Ritchie, 80.8 per cent. Algebra—Misses Murphy, Ritchie and Hanning, each 92.8 per cent. Geography—Miss Murphy; topographical: Miss Ritchie. Neat Work—Misses Murphy and Hanning.

A STORY OF THE AMERICAN AR.

(From the *Ave Maria*.)

"DIED, at the Mother-House of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, St. Mary's, Notre Dame, Ind., July 28, Sister Mary of St. Josephine."

Sister Josephine was one among the first of the seventy Sisters of the Holy Cross who, during the late civil war, served the sick and wounded soldiers in the military hospitals of Louisville, Paducah, Cairo, Mound City, Memphis and Washington City.

Those who knew this quiet, gentle religious only during the last twenty years of her life could scarcely realise what courage, even heroism, animated her during those years of the war spent in the hospitals. We give below one instance among many others.

In the summer of 1862 the Confederate Fort Charles, on White River, was attacked on land by a force under the command of Colonel Fitch, of Indiana, and from the water by gunboats commanded by Commodore Davis. In the midst of the battle the boilers of one of the gunboats exploded, frightfully scalding Captain Kely and some fifty others. The sufferers, in their agony, leaped into the river; and as they did so, a broadside from Fort Charles poured bullets and grape-shot into their parboiled flesh.

The battle ended with the capture of the Fort, and the wounded of both sides were taken to Mount City Hospital—a block of some twenty-four unfinished warehouses and store-rooms that had been converted into a vast hospital, in which, after some of the great battles in the Mississippi Valley, as many as two thousand patients were treated by a staff of medical officers, and nursed by twenty-eight Sisters—Sister Josephine being one of them. Colonel Fry, commander of the Fort, supposed to be dangerously wounded, and Captain Kely were of the number brought to Mount City after the surrender of Fort Charles.

The latter was a universal favourite of all the men and officers of the Western flotilla. His sad state—the scalded flesh falling from the bones, and pierced with bullets—excited them almost to frenzy. He was tenderly placed in a little cottage away from the main building; and Colonel Fry, with a few other sufferers, was put in a front room on the second storey of the hospital, under the immediate care of Sister Josephine.

The next day the report spread like wild-fire through the hospital, and among the one hundred soldiers detailed to guard it, that Captain Kely was dying. The wildest excitement prevailed; and in the frenzy of the moment, Colonel Fry was denounced as his murderer; it was declared that he had given the inhuman order to fire on the scalded men. Every one firmly believed this. But it was not true. Colonel Fry was ignorant of the explosion when the order was given.

Sister Josephine, very pale, yet wonderfully composed, went to the Sister in charge of the hospital, to say that all the wounded had