

ANGLICAN
VARIATIONS.

Of the phenomena of the times not the least amusing, are those presented by the dispute between High Church and Low Church, and their various modifications. It is a dispute, indeed, of

which it is impossible to foresee any termination, for there is no authority by which it may be decided, and the one party can bring forward in its defence fully as good arguments as the other can oppose to it. Still there is no restraint upon the acrimony with which one party pursues the other, and the "Evangelical" is not more resolute and uncharitable in urging the claims of salvation by faith only, than is the Ritualist in upholding the efficacy of the sacraments. It is, perhaps, the most flagrant instance that the world has ever seen of, a contest between parties, precisely similarly situated, with precisely the same advantages of education, social position, and abilities of all kinds. There seems, indeed, to the on-looker to be nothing by which any one can possibly be induced to side with the one or the other, except his taste; according as that inclines him, he will be High or Low. If a man, for example, be artistic, he will find his finer feelings wrought upon by ornamental vestments, stained-glass windows, beautiful interiors and such like matters, and so will he be edified or helped towards edification. If he be musical, fine choral effects will influence him in a kindred manner. We cannot tell what it is that delights those who are not thus disposed. We cannot see what it is that tends to their edification in lath and plaster, ugly rows of seats, hymns all out of tune, and uproarious; reading that makes the most pathetic passages of Holy Scripture sound ridiculous—we have, for instance, heard of a parson who impressed it upon his hearers that the dogs that licked the sores of Lazarus were named Moreover—and all that appears bald, bleak, and dreary. Still there must be tastes that incline towards these things, and verily those who own them are by no means lenient towards those who do not own them. We find them condemn their brethren of aesthetic leanings in no measured terms, and deny them to be in "earnest about their soul's salvation." We have seen a most amusing instance of this in a contemporary published a week or two ago here in this colony; and of its converse the uncharitableness of a ritualist parson, we lately were informed of a striking example that occurred in England. The victim of intolerance there was an unfortunate lady, the daughter of a clergyman, who had died a year or two before, and the mother of a clergyman alive and filling a curacy somewhere in England. This lady, then, during an interval in a journey by rail found herself within reach of her son and went as she hoped to spend a pleasant hour or two in his company. She was sadly disappointed, for during her whole visit the rev. host kept impressing upon her in the most earnest manner his mournful opinion that her father had certainly been lost because the "sacrament" had not been administered to him when he was dying. She went her way home like one distracted; partly, being very Low Church, at the sad defalcation of her son; and partly, being very affectionate, at the sad fate insisted upon concerning her father. Now all we need say concerning the matter is that the Church in which such essential differences, touching the very fact of salvation itself, are so flagrantly displayed is in a most ludicrous condition. And the conceit each party manifests in its intolerance makes the matter more ludicrous still.

PRIZE DAY AT ST. MARY'S SCHOOLS, NELSON

(From the *Colonist*.)

ON Thursday, the annual distribution of prizes at these schools took place, and the ceremony attracted a large number of ladies and gentlemen to the schools, which are situate in the fine grounds belonging to the Church and Convent. Shortly after 1 o'clock, the boys were mustered in front of the Church by Mr. Kavanagh, their master, and marched to the school-room, where a number of visitors, including his Worship the Mayor and Mrs. Dodson, Mr. O. Curtis, Judge Broad, and other ladies and gentlemen also assembled.

His Worship, who was requested to take the chair, at once proceeded to the pleasing task of distributing the awards, which were as follows:—

BOYS' SCHOOL.

Christian Doctrine—First Class, Daniel O'Connell (presented by Father Garn); 2nd, Bernard Frank; 3rd, William Collette; 4th, Wilfred Frank.

Good Conduct—1st prize, Bernard Frank (presented by Father Mahoney); 2nd, Edward Wainhouse (presented by Mr. A. M'Gee).

Euclid—John Adams (presented by Judge Broad).

Elocution—1st prize, Adolph Frank (presented by Mr. Kavanagh); 2nd, Ernest Fleming; 3rd, Francis Perera.

Book-keeping—Leonard Allen.

Map Drawing—1st prize, Leonard Allen; 2nd, Louis Carmine (presented by Mrs. Kavanagh); 3rd, J. Kirwin.

Geography (political)—Jeremiah O'Connor; 2nd, John Everett.

Geography (physical)—Francis James.

(These last three prizes were presented by Mr. P. Topliiss.)

History—William Higgins.

Grammar—1st prize, John O'Connor; 2nd, William Slattery; 3rd, John William Bourke.

Arithmetic—First Class, Adolph Frank (presented by Mr. P. Topliiss); 2nd, Arthur Leech; 3rd, John Bray.

Arithmetic (mental)—Leonard Allen.

Reading—1st prize, John O'Connor. Second Class, Edward Wainhouse (presented by Mr. P. Topliiss); 3rd, William Woodward; 4th, Wilfred Borrough; 5th, John Hunt and Antonio West.

Writing—First Class, Leonard Allen; 2nd, J. Wainhouse; 3rd, John Kirwan.

Tables—James Hart, second class.

Spelling—First Class, Francis James (presented by Mr. P. Topliiss).

The room was decorated with flowers, evergreens, and banners, whilst the walls were adorned with illuminated writings, mottos, and a number of maps, which testified most conclusively to the proficiency of the boys in that branch of study. The prizes having been distributed, at the request of the Rev. Father Mahoney, Mr. Kavanagh called upon a number of his pupils to give some recitations, which they did in a manner that fully proved the excellence of their memories. After some recitations from Macaulay and other authors several of the boys gave some scenes from Hamlet very creditably.

The Rev. Father Mahoney then rose, and said that, on behalf of the boys, he wished to thank those ladies and gentlemen who had presented prizes to the scholars.

His Worship the Mayor said it had afforded him a great amount of pleasure to distribute their prizes. The examination they had just gone through showed that they stood well as regards educational attainments, and they had now received their rewards for past exertions, but when they went away he hoped they would remember that there would be more prizes to be striven for next year. Those who had not taken prizes, he hoped, would remember that what one had done they all could do, and he urged upon them to try a little harder next time. (Applause.)

The Rev. Father Garin referred to the disadvantages under which those schools had been working since the Government withdrew all aid; but he hoped they would all agree with him, that if the working machinery had been affected from this cause, they would not consider it had greatly affected the results. The examination had shown that a great deal of work had been done, both by the pupils and the teacher; and he hoped that that day's proceedings would encourage them all in activity; that those who had not received prizes then would try hard to secure some next time; whilst those who had been more fortunate would strive to maintain their position; so that by emulation a great deal of improvement might be effected.

His Worship having announced his intention of giving a prize for good conduct next year, the proceedings were brought to a close by the boys giving three cheers for his Worship, three more for Father Garin, another three for Mr. Curtis, still another three for the ladies, and final three for Mr. Kavanagh.

An adjournment was then made to

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL,

The fine room in the wing recently added to the High School building had been arranged for the purpose, and had been tastily decorated for the occasion. At the western end of the room was a platform, on which were seated a large number of the young ladies attending the school, whilst others were grouped on either side. Below the platform a harmonium and seven pianos were ranged, whilst at the opposite end of the room were tables piled with a most liberal supply of handsome prizes, and all down the room seats were placed for the convenience of visitors. His Worship the Mayor again presided, and there was a large attendance of ladies and gentlemen.

The proceeding were commenced by the following programme being gone through by the young ladies, in a manner which testified in the highest degree to the ability of the reverend ladies who conduct these schools. Of the musical items we can only say that we were totally unprepared for the skill and taste displayed in the brilliant execution of the instrumental pieces. The performance of the "Gloria" from Mozart's Twelfth Mass, upon five pianos and a harmonium, by eleven young ladies, was in so excellent a manner and with such perfect time, that we were by no means surprised that a general request was preferred that it might be repeated—a request which was very kindly complied with. The vocal pieces, too, evinced the most careful training, and amongst the voices were several very promising ones:—

(1) Pianoforte—Overture to Zampa (*Harrold*), Duet on three pianos by Misses Bolton, Kennedy, Hollis, Hounsell, Wymond, and Pratt. (2) Vocal Duet—"Come with thy Lute to the Fountain," by Misses Broad and Elsie Edwards. (3) French recitation—"La Jeune avougle à Sa Mère." Miss Hollis. (4) Pianoforte—"La Voix du Ciel," (*Neldy*), Solo on five pianos, by Misses Bolton, Kennedy, Hollis, Hounsell, and Pratt. (5) Vocal Chorus—"The Music of the Birds," (*Glover*) by the Young Lady Pupils. (6) English recitation—"David's Lament," (*Willis*) Miss Lucy Edwards. (7) Piano Solo—"Fairy Whispers," (*Harrison*) on seven pianos and one harmonium, by Misses Kennedy, Hollis, Pratt, Wymond, Hounsell, Kelly, Symes; harmonium, Miss Bolton. (8) Vocal Chorus—"Pussy's Tea Party," (*Lyons*) by Juvenile Pupils. (9) French recitation—"Jeanne d'Arc," by Miss Everett. (10) Vocal Duet—"Hark, 'tis the Goat Bells," by Misses Pratt, and Bolton. (11) Pianoforte Trio—by nine young ladies on three pianos: Misses Broad, Duff, Kelly, Litchschandel, R. Litchschandel, Schiels, Desne, Perrin, and Nathan. (12) Vocal Chorus—"The Soft Winds," by the Young Lady Pupils. (13) Pianoforte—"Gloria," (*Mozart*) by eleven young ladies on five pianos and one harmonium: Misses Wymond, Hounsell, Kelly, Pratt, Hollis, Kennedy, Symes, Duff, Broad, and M'Carthy; harmonium by Miss Bolton. (14) French song—"Elle a fruit vers les Cieux," by Young Lady Pupils. (15) Pianoforte—"Invitation to the Waltz," (*Wetzer*) by six young ladies on three pianos: Misses Bolton, Kennedy, Hollis, Pratt, Hounsell, and Kelly. (16) Holiday Duet.

At the termination of what was, we are sure, a great treat to all present, his Worship proceeded to distribute the following

PRIZES.

ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL.

Good Conduct, Miss Lowe. Politeness, Miss Syme. (Both presented by Mrs. Wick.)

First Class Scripture and Christian Doctrine (presented by Rev. Father Garn), Miss K. Hollis; Universal History (presented by Judge Broad), Miss Hollis; English Composition, competitive (pre-