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PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, WELLINGTON.
(*Evening Post* December 21.)

BEFORE the annual prizes in connection with the Marist Brothers' School, Boulcott street, were distributed last night, an entertainment was given in the Princess Theatre, Tory street, by a number of the past and present pupils, in the presence of parents and friends. The overture, which was played by an orchestra of ex-pupils consisting of Messrs F. J. Oake (leader), J. Kearsley, F. Brown, R. Burke, S. Cimino, and C. Cimino, was followed by "The Fairies Glee," which was very creditably rendered by the present scholars. After it a comedy in two acts, entitled "The Irish Attorney," was performed by the following past pupils:—Messrs W. Naughton, W. Scanlan, F. Ross, J. E. Gamble, A. Smith, F. Gormley, S. G. Ross; and Misses A. Curtice and S. G. Ross, all of whom acquitted themselves with considerable credit. Between the acts, the vocal quartet "Larboard Watch" was given by Messrs E. and C. Gamble, R. Whitaker, and F. Swift; and the chorus "Sweet Charming Bills" was sung by the present pupils. A burlesque, entitled "Brannigan's Band," was played by a number of boys, under Mr W. Naughton's direction. They were previously drilled by Master C. Collins. Mr S. G. Ross discharged the duties of stage manager, and Mr F. B. Gormley was secretary to the Managing Committee. The Very Rev Father Dawson (Administrator) and Rev Father Grogan, who had examined the school, reported that the results were very satisfactory. Brother Mark, Director of the school, thanked the Archbishop for attending to present the prizes, and the examiners for their services, the Very Rev Father Devoy, V.G., for kindly consideration, and the ex-pupils for the entertainment just given. His Grace expressed his pleasure at learning that the school was in such an efficient state, and congratulated Brother Mark and his staff on the results of the examination. The Archbishop then presented the prizes.

ST MARY'S SCHOOLS, NELSON.
(*Colonist*, December 20.)

The annual distribution of prizes to the girls attending the Sacred Heart High School and the Select School connected with the Monastery of the Immaculate Conception, took place in the large room of the Girls' Orphanage building yesterday, when the awards were presented by his Worship the Mayor.

Prior to the proceedings in connection with the prize giving, many of the visitors inspected some of the work done by the pupils during the year, which was exhibited in one of the rooms of the convent, and included beautiful fancy work of many kinds, as well as plain sewing, and the verdict of the ladies who inspected this work was that it was all very good. Then, too, there were drawings and paintings, and last, but not least, a table full of exercise and writing books, which not only bore close inspection, but elicited unfeigned admiration. Some specimens of illuminated writing were also good.

The room selected for the proceedings connected more especially with prize day was very effectively decorated. On a raised platform were seated the girls, many of whom appeared in white frocks with sashes of cardinal, dark or light blue, and the happy looking girls presented a spectacle that would have gratified even stony hearts had there been any present. Between the audience and the pupils a number of pianos were ranged on either side of the room, and these with other musical instruments, including violins and a harp, indicated what was shortly to follow.

On the visitors assembling, the Very Rev Father Mahoney said he was glad to welcome them all once more, and that he was gratified that his Worship the Mayor, Mr Trask, was present to perform his first public duty after his installation, which took place at noon (applause). He then intimated that the pupils had prepared a programme of music and recitations for their enjoyment, which would next be presented.

This commenced with an overture, "Caliph of Bagdad," on five pianos and a harmonium. An instrumental quartet, "Bohemian Girl," the instruments being pianoforte, harmonium, harp, and violin, merits special mention, and other compositions were played on a number of pianofortes and other instruments, amongst the number being the "Gloria" from Mozart's Twelfth Mass, Miss Florrie Price sang "The old thorn tree" very well, and the songs and choruses were all well received. Miss Flossie Pratt's recitation was excellent, and so was Miss May McMahon's. "The golden bouquet," a recitation by some fourteen little girls, each of whom spoke as an individual flower of the bouquet, was very effective, and the whole performance was heartily enjoyed.

The Very Rev Father Mahoney then expressed thanks to those who had given prizes for competition, and intimated that the boys would receive their prizes to-day, and the girls a little later—about three o'clock probably. He then called on the Mayor to distribute the prizes.

His Worship, addressing the reverend Father, the reverend Lady Superior, and the ladies, gentlemen, and children present, said their worthy pastor had said he would like to see him (Mr Trask) attending those gatherings for another five years, and he could assure them that nothing would give him greater pleasure than to be there for another twenty-five years if he were spared—not in his official capacity, but he would always be pleased to come and see the prizes distributed at St Mary's. He had taken great interest in those schools for many years—for years before Father Garin departed, and he always felt he had something to do once a year in visiting those schools. For the last four years it had afforded him great pleasure to present the prizes, and he would have been pleased if the opportunities had only enabled him to know how well the children were taught to sing, recite and play, and to witness the healthy and excellent appearance of the children. All this was a great credit to the teachers—to the Lady Superior and the Sisters, and to the Mothers. He could not wish to see a better sight than the bappy and well looking children. He heartily wished the school success, and hoped the children would enjoy their holidays, and return in full vigour and strength with their minds well balanced, and that during their holidays they would obey their parents. Four years ago his first official duty was to present the prizes at that school, and on that day he was performing his first public action since his reinstatement. He congratulated all connected with the schools on the success of the past, and the way in which the children were taught (applause).

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, WANGANUI.
(*Herald*, 21st December.)

Our Roman Catholic friends certainly have the happy knack of making everything they attempt a brilliant success, and last night's effort was no exception to the rule. Every item bore the indelible mark of careful and painstaking rehearsal on the part of the pupils and equally vigilant by the Brothers themselves. To Brother Alfred is due a large share of praise for the state of proficiency to which he brought those whom he chose to provide the musical part of the programme, and that his efforts were crowned with smiling success was all evident by the clamorous applause with which each musical item was received. Where merit shone through the whole list of items it is perhaps unfair to particularise, but extra notice should be given to three of the junior pupils—namely, Masters Purcell, Turner, and Wixcey—who, in several solo parts, quite delighted their hearers with the rendition of their several pieces. In the case of the three boys mentioned—and, indeed, in all the others—there was evident musical aptitude noticeable in every item. The choruses demonstrated their ability to harmonise their voices, and strict regard was also given to time, the leading and secondary parts being treated in a manner which came as no small surprise to the audience. Of the recitations, etc., we may truthfully say that they were up to the standard of merit that could reasonably be expected of boys. A Scotch reel by Master R. McGregor won for him an enthusiastic reception, and in their physical exercise Masters Cullen, McGregor,

MR. J. S. ATKINSON
Surgeon Dentist,

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