

and Sister Lucy Ignatius, Sister Gonzaga opened a school at Harrisburg. On March 25, 1830, she made her holy vows, and two months later she came to Philadelphia and entered upon her work with the institution with which she had been so intimately identified. She succeeded Sister Petronilla as superioress of the asylum in August, 1843, and remained in charge until 1844, when she was sent to Donaldson, La., as assistant in novitiate of southern postulants. After several years' service in Louisiana, and after a temporary re-assumption of her charge in St. Joseph's, in Philadelphia, she was sent, in 1853, to the mother house of the Order in France. She remained abroad a year, returning to the United States in 1856 and in 1857 resumed charge at her old post of duty, thus becoming superioress for the third time. When the war times came Sister Gonzaga, accompanied by forty Sisters of the Order from all parts of the United States, was placed in charge of the Saterlee Military Hospital in Philadelphia. That was on June 9, 1862. After the battle of Bull Run soldiers were brought to the hospital by the hundreds. After Gettysburg it is said that 4,000 sick and wounded soldiers came to the hospital. Many survivors living to-day have publicly testified to Sister Gonzaga's rare efficiency and tender solicitude during this terribly trying ordeal. All during the war Sister Gonzaga, beside managing the soldiers' hospital, remained in charge of St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum, which she visited at regular intervals. At the close of the war she gave her whole time again to her favourite institution, and for half a decade subsequently she devoted to its best interests with all heart and soul. In 1877 she celebrated her golden jubilee in the sisterhood, Pope Pius IX. sending his blessing, and bishops, priests, sisters and laity vied with each other in manifestations of reverence and esteem. In 1887 she was recalled to the mother house at Emmitsburg. She remained there only sixteen months, however, returning on December 20, 1888, to St. Joseph's, where the remaining years of her busy life were spent, and where her death is most sincerely mourned.

Irish-Americans at Tennessee.—Irish-American Day was observed at the Tennessee Centennial Exposition being held in Nashville on Tuesday, September 21, and was a notable very interesting and most successful event. One of the largest and most imposing street parades ever seen in that city was a principal feature of the occasion. On reaching the centennial ground 5,000 assembled in the auditorium to listen to the orators. On the stage were Governor Taylor and staff, Governor Wolcott of Massachusetts and staff, Senator Bates, Congressmen Carmack, McMillan, and Gaines, Secretary of State Morgan, Senator Walsh, the Hon. John Finerty of Chicago, the Hon. Morgan J. Kelly of Memphis, Vicar-General Gleason, Father T. C. Abbott, and a number of other priests and invited guests. Mr. T. W. Wrenne, president, delivered a most forcible address from which we make a brief extract. He said: "Where is the battlefield that has not been glorified by Irish courage and baptised with Irish blood? And where is the free country whose councils have not been strengthened by Irish brains, and whose wealth has not been increased by Irish brawn? Wherever the flag of war flutters, the spirit of Irish chivalry is there, panting for the battle and eager for the charge. Whether it be Wellington leading the allied armies at Waterloo, or Ney following the eagles of France: whether it be Sam Houston crushing the armies of Santa Anna at San Jacinto, or Davy Crockett courting death at the Alamo; whether it be Andrew Jackson at New Orleans or Stonewall Jackson at Chancellorsville; whether it be Phil Sheridan in the saddle riding like a god of war in the thickest of the fight, or Pat Cleburne leading the forlorn hope and dying at the cannon's mouth on the breastworks of the foe, it is the same intrepid, unconquerable spirit of sublime courage which flows like a stream of inspiration from the heart of Old Ireland to fire the souls of the world's greatest leaders, and to live forever on the altars of liberty. Wherever the banner of peace is unfurled over the progressive English-speaking nations of the earth, this same irresistible Celtic blood has ever been present shaping the destinies of empires and republics."

ST. MARY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, WELLINGTON.

ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

Prizes were distributed on Thursday, December 9th, to the pupils of St. Mary's Convent High School, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. The large and tastefully-decorated class room was crowded with the parents and friends of the pupils. Archbishop Redwood presided, and the Very Rev. Fathers Dawson and Devoy and Messrs. C. Lee Williams and Samuel Aitken (examiner and secretary respectively of the Associated Board of the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College of Music) were also present.

An excellent programme of music was gone through. Miss Sullivan singing Gounod's "Serenade" and Barnett's "The fair breeze blew," whilst Miss Stafford sang Beethoven's "Creation morn," and piano solos were given as follows:—Miss Falconer, the "Andante and Rondo Capriccioso," of Mendelssohn; Miss Waldegrave, the brilliant "Presto" from Beethoven's "Seventh sonata"; and Miss Smith, Schumann's "Novellette in F." A quartette was played by Misses Evett, Condon, Nathan and Waldegrave, and two choruses were sung.

The Archbishop congratulated the Sisters and pupils on the excellent work of the year, and upon the results of the late musical examinations, in which, out of seven candidates, there was only one failure. His Grace then presented the prizes. The following is the list:—

Good conduct.—Silver medal (gift of Mr. White), awarded to Mary Dennehy; honourable mention, Christine Smith.

English composition.—Gold medal (gift of His Grace Archbishop Redwood), awarded to Nellie Achison; honourable mention, Mamie Waldegrave.

Dux.—Silver medal (gift of Mrs. Achison), Amy Williams.

Christian doctrine—Prize (gift of Mr. McArdle), awarded to Margaret Coffey.

Needlework.—First prize, Norah Lupton; second prize, May Egan; third prize, Ethel Cotter.

Painting and drawing.—Ethel Garrett.

Class singing.—Christine Smith.

Pianoforte.—Senior division (gift of Messrs. Begg and Co.), Mamie Waldegrave; execution from memory (gift of Mr. Brookes, Dresden Piano Co.), Christine Smith; intermediate division (gift of Messrs. Begg and Co.), Theo. Shapter; junior division, first prize (gift of Mr. Brookes), Muriel Waldegrave; second, Rene Nathan; primary division (gift of Mr. Brookes), Elizabeth Levy.

Matriculation class.—Arithmetic (gift of Mr. Duignan), Amy Williams; algebra, Amy Williams; writing, Amy Williams; English (gift of Mr. Brookes), Mattie Putnam; Latin, Mattie Putnam; Euclid, Mattie Putnam; neatest exercise book, Mattie Putnam; geography (gift of Mr. Brookes), Nellie Falconer; composition (gift of Mr. Duignan), Nellie Falconer; French, Cushla Coupland; mapping, Cushla Coupland; shorthand, Cushla Coupland.

Class VII.—Mathematics, gift of Mr. McArdle, Theo. Shapter; French, Theo Shapter; geography, Ethel Condon; composition, Isabel O'Galligan; grammar, Isabel O'Galligan.

Class VI.—Catechism, Daisy Reilly; arithmetic, Barbara Putnam; equal in merit, Dolly Bryant; dictation, Barbara Putnam; writing, Marie Brennan; composition, Marie Brennan; Euclid, Marie Brennan; Latin, Marie Brennan; geography, Irene Pearce; algebra, Irene Pearce; reading and recitation, Irene Pearce; mental arithmetic, Ethel Garrett; neatest exercise book, Mary Dennehy; homework, Kathleen Bourke; English, Muriel Waldegrave; French, Muriel Waldegrave.

Class V.—Catechism, Constance Reilly; writing, Constance Reilly; arithmetic, Lita Truman; grammar and spelling, Monica Coupland; composition, Monica Coupland; geography, Monica Coupland; mental arithmetic, Monica Coupland; reading and recitation, Annie Duignan; French, Annie Duignan; drawing, Elsie Philip.

Class IV.—Arithmetic, Olive Blake; mental arithmetic, Olive Blake; geography, Olive Blake; reading, Olive Blake; composition, Eileen Truman; grammar, Constance McCloskey; dictation, Constance McCloskey; recitation, Ethel Falconer; writing, Ethel Falconer.

Preparatory Classes. Class III.—Highest marks, Greta King; arithmetic, Kathleen Ward; geography, Annie Laing; drawing, Harriett Hill; writing, Harriett Hill.

Class II.—Catechism, Agnes Whitaker; highest marks, Frances Vanev; geography, Francis Vanev; arithmetic, Christina Henry.

Class I.—Arithmetic, Monica Blake.

Infant class.—Highest marks, Ruby Poll; next in merit, Grace McArdle; arithmetic, Martha Duignan.

After his Grace had distributed the prizes, Mr. C. Lee Williams addressed those present as follows:—

"Your Grace, ladies and gentlemen,—I have just returned from Auckland, and during the last three months I have been travelling up and down, round about, examining music, vocal and instrumental. Of course some of you will wonder why I strayed so far from my old home out here to the other side of the globe; well, it was done purely for the love, the downright love of the art of music. I am only a very humble individual, but I wish to say a few words to you about the state of music in Australasia. Well, I must say the instrumental and vocal music in Australia and New Zealand are very far above our expectations. We have been in such places as Rockhampton, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Toowoomba, Adelaide, Geelong, Hobart, Launceston, and Broken Hill—I shall never forget that last mentioned place. The three most miserable days I ever spent in my life were spent there. There was a terrible dust storm, and I went about in a veil and pair of horn spectacles to keep the dust out. I shall never forget those miserable days, but even there I found musical talent. In Australia they excelled principally in instrumental music, but I must say I found the most advanced vocal talent in New Zealand—not only in New Zealand, but in Wellington and at St. Mary's Convent. I found nothing approaching the vocal talent here. In most places they sang nice songs, but nothing nearly coming up to the vocal talent in this school. It shows me (I'm not behind the scenes) that there must be very high class teachers here. I had not the pleasure of examining in instrumental music owing to some mistake that I hope to see rectified, but from what I have heard here to-day I am sure there must be very able and conscientious teachers at work. During the whole time I have been knocking about, I must say I have met with the greatest kindness everywhere, and I must express my thankfulness for the kindness we have received in Australia as well as New Zealand. We have been welcomed most kindly and warmly, and here in Wellington you have been more than hospitable in providing us with a full-blown earthquake, an attention which I shall never forget. I must not detain you any longer, but most heartily wish your Grace, ladies and gentlemen, and young lady pupils a very merry Xmas and happy New Year." (Loud applause.)

Mr. Aitken, who also addressed those present, said:—"I must say I endorse, with great pleasure, every word my friend has said, not only about Australia, but New Zealand. I am going also to emphasize the remarks he has made concerning the talent here in this convent. One young lady has been successful in obtaining honours, and when I tell you that that young lady is the only one who has gained honours in Australia or New Zealand, and not only honours but the gold medal, you will understand what a difficult thing it is to gain honours from us. Now, that young lady is Miss Lottie McDonald, and I must say, as far as I am concerned, her singing has given the highest satisfaction. She has gained the gold medal. There is also a silver medal for the juniors which no one has, as yet, gained, but that is because there were no juniors sent up from this convent. We did not have any instrumental candidates here, through some mistake, but from what I have heard of the pupils playing here to-day, there ought to be no difficulty about

"GET ON THE SOIL, YOUNG MAN; GET ON THE SOIL."

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