

## ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL CONCERT.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Temuka, December 18, 1890.

The annual concert given by the children attending the above school came off on the 16th December (Anniversary Day), and was, as I prognosticated, an unqualified success. The day had been extremely hot, and notwithstanding the fact that nearly everybody took advantage of the holiday for pic-nicking purposes, etc., and naturally felt somewhat weary in the evening, but few missed the chance of enjoying the treat which was in store for those who patronised the concert. Long before the time fixed for opening the doors a large crowd had gathered at the main entrance, and when the curtain rose every foot of the hall was taken up. Even in the passages were located chairs. This was by far the largest audience that ever witnessed a performance in this hall, and besides this there was a good number outside who could not avail themselves of the treat enjoyed by those within. Next year, without doubt, the drilled will have to be procured, and, indeed, it is a pity this step was not taken on the present occasion. There were people present from Geraldine, Orari, Winchester, Waitohi, Kerrytown, and all intervening districts—such is the popularity which these concerts enjoy. It was rather flattering to the Sisters to see persons present who scarcely ever condescend to visit amusements.

The entertainment was opened by a prologue, which Miss M. Wareing spoke in her usual pleasing way. Miss Quinn followed with Jules de Sivrai's somewhat beautiful composition "Balmoral," to which the young lady did full justice, being deservedly applauded. The next item was one which those who have been in Dreamland amongst the fairies can fully realise. It was the chorus "The Dear Little Shamrock," in which a stagemful of children took part, the girls wearing their usual white dresses, with a bouquet of flowers in their hands. Judging from the excellent order kept by the children, one would imagine the whole was a panorama worked by invisible machinery. The singing, too, was very sweet, and a marked improvement on last year. The dialogue, "The Months," was spoken in a taking manner. In this Misses Guthrie, Daly, M. Gaffaney, G. Taylor, L. Archer, and Masters M. Brosnan, J. Cunard, M. Melvin, J. Flaherty, W. Polaschek, T. Cunard, F. Scannell took part. It is scarcely right to single out anyone in this, but the "baby" Guthrie might be mentioned, as she seemed quite at home and spoke very naturally. The Sisters must have spared no pains to prepare one so young for such a task. The next item was by no means the least on the programme. It was the song, "Troubadour," which Master Polaschek rendered in splendid voice, and received an encore. This youthful performer is only nine years old, and his past attempts at singing augur a bright future. This put the audience in a good humour for receiving the drama, "Mrs. Willis's Will." The cast was as follows:—Mrs. Dwindel (fashionable lady from London), Miss L. Quinn; Lady Spindle (fashionable lady from London), Miss B. Connolly; Mrs. Robinson (executrix to Mrs. Willis's will), Miss M. Quinn; Rachel (assistant housekeeper), Miss E. Brosnan; Jenny (farm servant), Miss M. Davis. This was a very appreciative item, and the whole was played in an excellent manner. Without doing wrong to anyone, the palm must be freely given to Miss Davis, who, though yet tender in age, possesses unbounded dramatic capacity. Something good may yet be expected from this young lady. She spoke and acted in a first-class manner. From this drama could be learned the extent to which people will humiliate themselves for the sake of gold. According to the stipulations of the will the two fashionable ladies had to set aside their gorgeous attire, and adorn themselves with the somewhat lowly dress of the peasant. Thus they do, after much bombastic talk, and shortly after appear dressed as such, the apparel being very appropriate. To fulfil the final part of the will, the young ladies show their ability on the "light fantastic toe," the "step" being much appreciated by the audience. The whole concludes with Jenny (the farm servant) turning out to be a blood relation, and she becomes possessed of the whole of Mrs. Willis's estate, and thus Jenny is repaid for her kindness to her little brother Peter, and the fashionable ladies for their greed for wealth are well served. The next item was a vocal duet "Come Where the Lillies are Growing," by Miss O Grady and Master R. Goldstone. Their voices blended nicely, and they were loudly applauded. Miss Connolly followed with "The Nightingale's Trill," for which she received a round of applause. The dialogue "The Fairies" was equally well spoken as the first, and the dresses worn by the fairies were rich. In this Misses A. Wareing, K. Connel, M. Wareing, A. Archer, E. Dalton, E. Barrett, M. Guthrie and B. Brosnan took part. Master Lavery was vociferously applauded for his singing "He Was a Careful Man." This is a very comical song, and the performer gave it with much spirit, keeping the audience in roars of laughter. The song "The French Flower Girl" (in character) was given as sweetly as could be wished for by Misses E. Davis B. Brosnan, M. Melvin, W. Melvin, E. Dalton, J. Williams, E. Daly, L. Archer, and M. Story. Miss M. Wareing scored a point by reciting "The King and the Child," which was certainly a pleasing item. Miss B. Connolly followed with "I Cannot Sing the Old Songs," which she gave in a feeling manner. A short dialogue entitled "Inquisitive Jack," by Miss and Master Archer (two small children, the latter particularly so) was well received, Miss O'Grady next sang "The Isle that's Crowned with Shamrocks," thus she did in a very sweet voice, and combined with the music was poetry. This should be encouraged. What has gained fame for Santley is the fact that he is a singing poet. This brought us to the cantata, "The Christmas Gift." The principal characters in this were sustained by Master J. Dunn (Santa Claus), Miss E. Dalton (Winnie Worrell), Master W. Polaschek (Willie Brown), and Miss J. Williams (Gracie Wells). This would bring back to the memory of many how in their childhood they used to pray well and be so good for weeks before Santa Claus's day, so that he would fill their stockings. The choruses were well sung. The solos "The Chimney Top," and "The Dolly" were sung by Master Polaschek and Miss D. Flaherty, (a very small girl respectively.) The chorus "Our Jack a Come Home

To-day," by the boys, brought the first part to a close. The second part was opened by Miss Guthrie reciting "An Infantine Speech," which she did to the satisfaction of the audience. The Misses Quinn next rendered a trio (piano and violin), "Princess Louise Lancers," which elicited loud applause. The Misses Connolly followed with the duet "The Wind and the Harp," which was well appreciated, and were succeeded by the dialogue "The Choice," which was well spoken by Misses Fleming E. Dalton, M. Story, A. Archer, J. Horgan, Masters J. and F. Scannell, G. Demuth, F. Wareing, and O. Spillane. The next item was a treat; it was the recitation "Mrs Jones's Musical Party," into which Master R. Goldstone threw much life. Master J. Scannell (a small boy little over nine years) put the audience into fits of laughter with his song "Mr. Reilly"; this undoubtedly was not one of the least items of the evening. In the drama which followed, "Little Pickle," the characters were taken as follows:—Uncle, Master Lavery; Aunt, Miss M. Lavery; Jack, Master J. Goldstone; Servant, Miss J. Williams; Farmer, Master P. Gaffaney; Pedler, Master J. Scannell; schoolmaster, Master J. Dunn. The whole performed the parts allotted them in a first-rate manner. Miss N. Fitzgerald (violin) and Misses Quinn (piano) did full justice in their rendition of "Scotch Airs." Miss Fitzgerald should make an excellent player of the violin. The dialogue "Love Gold," by Masters B. Goldstone and B. Spillane, was followed by Miss Connolly, singing "Juanita," which secured an encore. Master Polaschek was as successful in the song "Little Brown Jug," as in his former one. The dialogue "Family Quarrel," by Miss Barrett and Master R. Goldstone caused much merriment, which was extremely good. Master Lavery sent the audience into hysterics with the song "McCarthy's Runaway Mare," and was applauded. The chorus "Good Bye" brought the programme to the National Anthem. Miss Quinn accompanied the singers, on the piano, with the exception of the Cantata, which task Miss M. Quinn performed, adding much to its success.

The concert, with regard to both music and speech, was a marked improvement on the former one, which substantiates the opinion I gave at the conclusion of my report of the last. The entertainment must increase in excellence year by year, as most of the children were very small, and will be at school for some time to come. The whole passed off without a hitch, and from beginning to end it was one of prolonged applause. The audience was evidently extremely well satisfied with the efforts of the band of youthful performers. Indeed, they acquitted themselves in a way which reasonably made their parents proud of them, and in a very substantial manner strengthened the high reputation the Sisters enjoy in being able to mould the minds of the young, and they well may be congratulated upon the success which crowned their efforts on the present occasion.

## AN UNSCRUPULOUS FOE.

CREEPS upon us unawares like an assassin in the dark and whose dangerous proximity we never suspect until it makes the last fatal clutch on some vital organ. We are always warned in ample time of the impending danger, but with criminal carelessness neglect these warnings: That tired feeling, those aching limbs, and that grand feeling one day and seedy condition the next, the sour taste on waking on a morning, and the frequent sick and splitting headaches, all make their debut before serious illness sets in. All or any of these symptoms indicate the approach of disease, they are faithful signs that the liver and kidneys are not doing their duties, that the morbid and effete matter instead of being eliminated from the system, is being retained, and is positively poisoning and destroying the whole physical structure. Neglect in such cases is criminal, recourse to rational treatment should be had at once, Clements Tonic should be taken to strengthen the digestion, purify and fortify the blood, to stimulate the liver and brace up the kidneys, to resolve and eliminate the poisonous urea. Liver and kidney complaints are the most prevalent diseases of this country, and so long as we consume such large quantities of animal food and condiments and drink so freely of tea and stimulants, so long will this unhealthy condition last. It is this mode of life that causes such numbers of deaths from heart disease, Bright's disease, dropsy, cancer, inflammation and enlargement of the liver, and similar causes, all of which herald their approach by feelings of lassitude, headache, languor, etc., and if prompt treatment at once is adopted by a regular use of Clements Tonic, the progress of disease is arrested, the stomach, liver and kidneys resume their normal action and the poisonous accumulations are expelled the system and normal health is restored. That Clements Tonic is reliable is proved beyond all question and we have grateful beneficiaries in every town and village who are continually writing us in terms similar to the following:—

St. Leonards, Sydney.—Dear Sir,—I can with pleasure bear witness to the great relief I have received from the use of Clements Tonic and Dr. Fletcher's Pills. I have been a great sufferer for 11 years from liver disease, with at times considerable enlargement, which caused a swelling in the side under the ribs and was very painful, the abdomen, bowels, etc., always felt very tender on pressure, with most obstinate constipation for which I took Fletcher's Pills, the first dose caused a copious evacuation and gave great relief, and I thought I was all right, but after a week I was as bad again as before, I again had recourse to Fletcher's Pills but I took Clements Tonic as well this time and continued it for a couple of months, after the first dose I felt better and got rid of all the symptoms I used to have, as flushings of heat and cold, splitting headaches, pains in the side and small of the back, extreme lassitude, and the general feeling of "all-right to-day, seedy to-morrow," all these symptoms with many others I used to have, but now thanks to Clements Tonic I am quite cured. I can get up in a morning refreshed by the night's rest and can eat a good breakfast, whereas before taking the medicine I scarcely ever could eat anything, and when I did it nearly always made me vomit, but now I am quite well and have been so for 5 months, I have no cause to fear a relapse. I don't mind your publishing my case if you add nothing to it, as it may bring relief to similar sufferers.—Your very truly, H. GARBELL.