

the successful pupils of the school. The exhibits were greatly admired, and most of the work was really admirable. The plain needlework showed that great care had been bestowed on it, while the fancy needlework, crayon drawings, and illuminated Scripture texts were very attractive. The drawings were very good, as were the maps exhibited. The pupils then gave an excellent performance of musical and other items as follows:—Duet, "Danse Macabre," Misses Caffrey, N. Caffrey, Graham, A. Shanaghan; address Miss A. Shanaghan; recitation, "One Hail Mary," Miss L. Ryan; chorus, "Sowle and Softly Music Should Flow;" recitation, "The Spartan Mother," Miss Little; duet, "Lucia di Lammermoor," Misses Ryan, Quinn, Bailey, Evans; recitation, "St. Elizabeth's Rose," Miss B. Graham; recitation, "Take Them as You Find Them," Miss Foley; glee, "The Bells;" recitation, "A Stranger's Greeting to Erin," Miss J. Quinn; duet, "Fairy Queen," Misses Graham and Caffrey, B. Graham, N. Caffrey; dialogue, "Nature v. Education," Misses Bennet, Flannery, Little, Graham; recitation, "Live for Something," Miss E. Flannery; vocal waltz, "Little Huntsman."

After the performance of these items His Lordship the Bishop distributed the prizes.

KERRYTOWN CONVENT SCHOOL CONCERT.

(From an occasional Correspondent.)

Temuka, January 2, 1891.

THE annual concert given by the pupils attending St. Joseph's Convent School, came off on Friday, 19th December, and in excellence surpassed even the most sanguine expectations. The stage for the occasion was well got up, and the room was filled to excess. The concert commenced precisely at 8 o'clock, and lasted till just 11. Miss Izzie Hoare opened with an overture entitled "Husarenritt" (*Spindler*), which she executed in a very pleasing and artistic manner; "God defend New Zealand," as a song and chorus, by the pupils, following, which was an exceptionally pleasing item, and it was evident that no pains were spared in the preparation of the children for the piece. Master D. Hoare fairly entered into the spirit of the recitation, "Boys' Right," which took well and created much amusement. The solo, "Kitty McGee," was very nicely rendered by Miss M. Brosnan, and was succeeded by the drama, "My aunt's heiress," the caste being as follows:—Mrs. Smith, Miss Hoare; her seven daughters—Anna Maria, Miss K. Coughlan; Jemima, Miss M. Coughlan; Sophia, Miss E. Murphy; Matilda, Miss E. Louney; Arabella, Miss D. Brosnan; Clementina, Miss H. Hoare; Jane, Miss M. Hoare; Mrs. Betsy Brown (poor relation), Miss Mary Hoare; Mrs. Alexander de Courtney Smith, rich aunt, Miss D. Hoare; Sippitte (servant to Mrs. Smith), Miss Barry. Much interest was evinced in this item, which was enacted in a manner which would have done justice to any amateur performance. The whole of the actors acquitted themselves in a first-class style, and with great credit to their teacher. Miss Julia Hoare next sang "Apothecary Doctor," for which she was loudly applauded. Master S. Coughlan's recitation "The Old Man in the Wood," was listened to very attentively. The Royal Irish Quadrilles (piano solo) were given in a most creditable style by a youthful performer, Miss Julia Scannell, for which she was loudly applauded. Miss Nora O'Driscoll was very successful with her song, "The Old Log Cabin in the Lane," and was followed by Master M. Coughlan, who rendered the ever-popular recitation "Bingen on the Rhine," which was well received. The song "Christmas Chimes" was certainly not the least item on the programme, for the rendition of which Misses M. D. and L. Hoare, and Coughlan received a well-deserved prolonged applause. The playing of Master Denis and Miss Maggie Hoare in the piano duet "Osborne Quadrilles" was delightful, which was followed by the song "Pickles are We," in which Misses Day, Coughlan, Swaney, Hoare, and O'Connell displayed considerable amount of talent. The cantata "The Fairies," by the pupils was throughout sung in a manner which displayed careful training, and brought the entertainment to the last item on the first part of the programme, which was the dialogue "The Irish Schoolmaster," in which Masters Connell, P. Scannell, J. O'Driscoll, J. Lyons, and D. Scannell caused much laughter. The second part was opened by the pupils singing the chorus "Let Erin Remember," which was a very interesting item. Miss Coughlan following with a piano solo, "Knights of St. Patrick," the execution of which reflected great credit on the young lady. The duet "Music and Her Sister song" was dealt with in a most able style by Misses M. D. and M. Hoare and Coughlan, and whose voices blended together in a very impressive manner. Masters Coughlan, Fleming, and Driscoll, and Misses O'Driscoll, O'Connell, and Coughlan spoke the dialogue "Ignorance is Bliss" in a distinct and able way, and Miss Hoare "made a hit" in the singing of the song "Barney O'Hea," for which she was loudly applauded. The piano duet, "Echoes from the Green Isle" was rendered by Misses J. Scannell and J. Coughlan in an admirable manner. The dialogue "The Hen-pecked Husband," which vividly portrays the "tenderness" of the ladies when they have the good fortune of getting a husband who has not a "Roman nose," caused much amusement, and was done justice to by Miss M. Brosnan, and Masters J. Scannell, D. Scannell, and J. O'Driscoll. Master P. Swaney's song "Robinson Crusoe," which was very well rendered, gave place to the drama "The Omnibus." The characters were—Mr. Ledger, Master Richard Hoare; Miss Julia Ledger, Miss L. Hoare, Pat Maloney, Master H. Brosnan; Master Tom Dobbs, Master J. Fleming; Mr. Dobbs, Master M. Coughlan; Mrs. Dobbs, Miss B. Coughlan; Misses Dampers, Misses K. and M. Coughlan; Farmer's Boy, Master Kelly. The actors in this acquitted themselves as creditably as those in the former drama. The pathetic song "Love Not," was given by Miss Hoare and Miss Debbie in splendid voice and with due appreciation to music. Master Foley sent the audience into hysterics with his recitation "Dr. Von de Bloasterberg," to which he imparted a fair portion of humour. Miss Coughlan by the singing of "We'd Better Bide a Wee," proved that she is a vocalist of no mean standing. An

interesting item of the evening was the recitation "Death of King Conor MacNeasa," by Master P. Keane. Master P. Keane sustained in this piece the reputation he enjoyed for the past six years as an elocutionist. He has a really good voice, and, no doubt, if he continues his studies he will in time be a brilliant orator. The duet "Convent Bells" was at least one of the most pleasing items of the evening, for the rendition of which Misses Hoare and Coughlan received a round of applause. The dialogue "Wanted a General Servant," by Misses Coughlan, Perry, O'Keefe, L. Hoare, Kate Coughlan, and D. Hoare, which provoked much laughter, was followed by "Auld Lang Syne," which terminated the best concert ever held in Kerrytown. Miss L. Hoare, the organist of St. Mary's, Pleasant Point, presided at the piano, and added in a great measure to the success of the entertainment by her artistic manipulation of the instrument.

It would be hard to overpraise the excellence of this entertainment. It was, indeed, by far the best juvenile production I have ever seen. In fact, it would have been a credit to grown-up amateurs. At these kinds of concerts there are two or three who do exceptionally well, but on this occasion the entertainment was conspicuous for evenness. The performers, from the largest to the smallest, were very good, and there is no doubt much pains must have been taken to get the children up to such a state of perfection. They acquitted themselves in a manner which reflected unmeasured praise to their teachers, and the Sisters have every reason for being proud of their pupils. Many of the children have been at school for six years, and this, combined with the very high reputation this convent enjoys for training, will give an idea of what the concert was like. The attire worn by the actors was as good as is seen on any amateur stage. The singing was a great feature, and a marked improvement on previous years. The musical portion of the concert was really delightful, and Kerrytown, for its size, will more than compare with any other place so far as musicians are concerned. There is scarcely a child in the whole of Kerrytown who is not able to play the piano, and play well, too. None of the present regretted that they had come, as was plainly noticeable from the hearty manner in which they applauded the items from beginning to end. Though it was late, no one seemed weary. In concluding my remarks, I must say that at the next concert something very good may be expected, as mostly all those who who took part this time will do so in the next.

Prince Bismarck, who farms on a large scale at Varzin, is said to have cleared 10,000 lois, by his cattle and geese during the last year, and his profit from yeast exceeded 30,000 lois.

The German Catholic press loses a leader by the death of the Rev. Bernard de Florencourt, a German ecclesiastic albeit of French name and descent, some time editor of the *Germania* in Berlin, and of the *Vaterland* in Vienna.

The Empress Frederic has just purchased the Castle of Kromberg, celebrated for having formerly been the residence of Luther. The Empress intends to transform it into a charitable institution in memory of her husband.

The question of Socialism has been discussed very fully by the Catholics of Germany in recent times, and their Bishops have made it the subject of a joint Pastoral. But the German Catholics do not content themselves with mere words. They are going to work actively to combat Socialism by securing the redress of the grievances of the working class population. With this object there has just been founded at Mayence, under the presidency of Prince Lowenstein, a Catholic Union for Germany. A central committee will be elected by a general assembly of the members and will be composed of representatives of different parties. The Union, for membership of which there is an annual subscription of only one mark, proposes to establish Christian associations of working men, to organise conferences and reunions, and to disseminate sound literature dealing with social questions. This is a practical way of gaining the confidence of the masses and of defeating chimerical and dangerous experiments.

The *Rock* has unwittingly put into our hands an unanswerable argument against the fun-amen-a Protestant theory that the Almighty intended the Bible to be the one rule of faith and practice for all men. In reviewing a book on "Bible Translations," by Dr. Curt, our contemporary points out that the philologist reckons more than two thousand forms of speech, no one of which would be intelligible to a man who could speak only one of them—in other words more than two thousand distinct languages. Now, it is commonly assumed by Protestants that since the invention of printing the argument from the fact that the Scriptures were not accessible to all falls to the ground. But the Bible has only been translated into some three hundred tongues; so that after three and a half centuries of Bible printing and translating, after millions of money have been spent on the work, only about sixteen per cent. of the languages of the earth have been favoured by having the Scriptures translated into them. Nay, Dr. Curt believes that some of the two thousand languages will have ceased to exist before those who speak them can ever see a Bible. On the Protestant theory, therefore, the Almighty adopted a method for making His revelation known to man, which has been proved to be absolutely unworkable and insufficient for the end for which He intended it.—*Liverpool Catholic Times*.

It is reported in clerical circles that the delay in the delivery of judgment in the Lincoln case is due to the fact that the Primate has been waiting for the appearance of Dr. Gasquet's work on "Edward the sixth and the book of Common Prayer." This book will in all probability throw a great deal of new light on the interpretation of the rubrics, and is not likely to strengthen the Ritualistic position. Dr. Gasquet is a Benedictine monk of remarkable learning, whose time since published a clever book on the dissolution of the monasteries. Among other discoveries which he has made about the Prayer-book in the British Museum and elsewhere, he is said to have dug up a report of the debate on the Prayer-book—the earliest debate which can boast of a report—as well as the notes of Cranmer and other Reformers upon the projected book.—*Truth*.