

standard. Be that as it may, it is evident to anyone who passes through the streets of Christchurch any ordinary week night that there is a very large percentage of the young people of both sexes to whom modesty and reverence are unknown virtues. Take, for instance, the football matches on a Saturday afternoon when the lazzaroni element is in full form, what can compare with the foul-mouthed, brazen-voiced, leather-lunged "barracker" who howlings are punctuated by profanities at every third word. Football in itself, as played here, is nothing more than a display of brute force, which must certainly have a noxious effect on the players, but when the demoralising influence of gambling is added, we can judge the result. Betting is becoming so general, on the result of the games, that it has become a mania, so that like racing, the best team does not always win, for reasons best known to some body who pulls the wires. The Rugby Union have been investigating the conduct of some members of the local club during the week, and the little evidence that did come out was disgraceful. The referee who made the complaint, was bullied and called all manner of names, he was hustled and shoved here and there by the crowd, and when returning into town he was followed by a howling mob of hoodlums, who pelted him with soda and garbage of every description. Such is the reverence of our youth for authority.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOLS, DUNEDIN.

schools broke up for the winter holidays on Friday the 26th inst. His Lordship the Bishop presided at the distribution of prizes and the Rev Fathers O'Neil and Murphy and several of the relatives and friends of the pupils were present. The Dominican Nuns are to be highly congratulated on the results of their year's work—the evident fruits of which admitted of no misapprehension. The show of exercises, copies and mapping done at home and representing the ordinary routine of the school, was alone sufficient to prove the extremely high character of the institution. The show of needlework too was excellent—preference apparently being given to the more useful branches, though the ornamental were by no means neglected. A very pleasing programme had been drawn up and was most creditably carried out. The pianoforte playing, either as solos or duets, on two pianos by four girls, was excellent, the junior pupils especially showing wonderful proficiency. Some admirable solos were also sung, and one young lady was put to the severe test of singing alone without an accompaniment. She acquitted herself, however, admirably, pleasing her audience not only by her pure sweet notes but by the ease and simplicity of her style. A vocal trio was another exceptionally enjoyable item. The recitations were also given with correct emphasis and intelligence, and a comic reading caused great amusement. The programme was as follows:—Duet (piano), "Crown Diamonds"; infants' recitation.—Awards.—Solo (piano), "Guillaume Tell" (Gantier)—Awards First Standard and Second Standard.—Simultaneous recitation, "The story of blessed Imelda Lambertini."—Awards.—Duet (piano), "Gondolier" (Rockard); solo and chorus, "Children of Air" (S. Glover).—Third Standard (Lower Division) Awards.—Solo (piano), "Fair Zurich's Waters" (Rockard); recitation, "An old Irish tune"; solo and chorus, "Sea Flowers" (Barnett).—Third Standard (Upper Division) Awards.—Piano (solo), "Glistening spray" (E. Dorn); recitation, "My subjects love me"; vocal duet, "Strike the silver strings" (Jeannot).—Fourth Standard Awards.—Solo (piano), "La Favorita" (Gantier); reading (comic), "Uncle Podger" (Zerome); solo (vocal), "Charity" (S. Glover).—Fifth and Sixth Standards.—Simultaneous recitation, "Ode to St. Aloysius."—Awards.—Duet (piano), "Fleurs du pays" (G. de Boutville); vocal trio, "O sweet is our song" (R. Richards).—General Prizes.—Chorus, "Excelsior" (Lindsay).

On the conclusion the Bishop addressed the children to the following effect:—

His Lordship said that he must now give a recitation, but there was no premium provided for him, which seemed a little unfair. He congratulated them on their exhibition and was sure that all the visitors present felt as he did, grateful to them, and appreciated the high toned and refined entertainment they had given them. It had been high toned and refined, and there was no other phrase to describe it. The girls had done their parts admirably, their singing and playing and recitation had been performed in a manner deserving congratulation for them, and their conduct had been especially good. They were also to be congratulated on the privilege they enjoyed in attending so excellent a school, where they were learning what was useful as well as receiving an education so refined. All present had heard and seen the exhibition and could judge for themselves of its character. Behind it, however, there lay a great deal that was not on the surface. He (the speaker) had been enabled to form an accurate judgment. He had examined the school. He had himself examined every pupil there, and the results had been good. He did not wish to flatter them. He would not say they had been more than good, but they had been good. A higher perfection might be desired. Some might have been more industrious, but the answering had been

generally good, and there had been reason to be satisfied with it. Better, nevertheless, might be desired, and he hoped things would be still better and that, as was becoming, every year more progress would be made. He had now said enough concerning the past, but before dismissing them, he would say a word or two respecting the future. He would especially impress two things upon them. Let them be regular in their attendance. If not, they would not derive a full advantage from it. They would lose a great deal by being absent even for a day. Let them come every day, and when they come let them be attentive. Idleness was a great misfortune, and not only that, but it was as well a sin. It was an offence against everyone, but particularly against Almighty God. He had placed us in the world to work, and not to play or idle. The sentence had been passed on our first parents that they must earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, and St Paul said that those who would not work should not eat. Unfortunately, at the present day there was a disposition to be idle. People seemed anxious to escape from work and labour, and to pass their lifetime in pleasure. He did not say that during their holidays they must continue to sit over their books, but let them not be idle. Let them help in the housework, and read occasionally. Let them turn their education to account and profit by it. Having nothing to do was a disgrace to people. Sometimes when he came into the schoolroom, at the time for needlework, he noticed that some children had nothing in their hands, but to be able to work with their needle was most necessary for them. If they did not learn, they would not be able to do it. When he (the most rev speaker) had been at the Cape of Good Hope, he was obliged to employ two gardeners—and men sometimes applied to him for work who did not know how to plant a cabbage or sow a potato. They had not been trained to do so. Those who had had charge of their education had neglected them. How could such men as those expect to make their way in the world? Piano-playing and singing were very nice accomplishments, but other things were more useful and necessary. He regretted there was no class for cooking in the school. At the Cape the nuns had had a cooking class, and had taught the girls to dress and serve their food. Ladies and gentlemen had come to the Superioress to thank her for teaching their children to be neat and efficient housekeepers. He hoped that such would soon be the case with regard also to their school. It was necessary for girls to learn to use their needle and to cook. If women could not do this, their homes were untidy and uncomfortable. Badly-cooked food was unwholesome—people lost their health through it. Men took a disgust to ill-kept, untidy homes and, in many instances, forsook them for the public-house. The most rev speaker said that, as soon as possible, he hoped a cooking class would be opened in connection with the school.

The girls were then dismissed by the Bishop until July 20—hailing the announcement with a *Vivat*.

We append the prize list:—

Infant School—Awards: Agatha O'Connor, Lucy Ryan, Louisa Murray, Mary Dunne, Amy Lawlor, Angelina M'Guire.

First Standard—Prize, Katie M'Cawe; certificates—Mary Clarke Mabel Nelson, Fanny Marley, Katie M'Cawe, Mary Gabriel O'Connor, Annie Plunkett, Ettie Tanner, Rose Todd.

Second Standard—Prize, Lizzie Todd; certificates—Lillie Beard, Kathleen Clancy, Margaret Fuller, Norah Gunning, Maggie Higgins, Mary Mason, Lizzie Todd.

Low Third Standard—Prize, Jessie Higgins; certificates—Fanny Clarke, Lucy Chapman, Mabel Morkane, Mary Ryan, Jessie Higgins, Mary Tarleton, Bella M'Cormack.

High Third Standard—Prize, Mary Todd; certificates—Agnes Connor, Alice Clancy, Amy Treston, Ellen M'Closkey, Nellie Francis, Teresa Attridge.

Fourth Standard—Prize, Katie Deane; certificates—Lizzie Kinget, Priscilla Newman, Johanna Fox.

Fifth Standard—Prize, Margaret Rossbotham; certificates—Letitia Brookes, Mary Burke, Lizzie Burke, Mary Columb, Teresa Rossbotham, Nora Cleary, Johanna Connor, Mary Kilmartin, Margaret Rossbotham.

Sixth Standard—Prize, Lucy Connor; certificates—Lucy Connor, Margaret Jones, Mary Nolan.

General Prizes—Regular attendance—Sarah Todd; Catechism—First prize, Mary Burke; second prize, Cicely Beard; Needlework—Letitia Brookes. Mapping and Drawing—Johanna Connor. Composition and Recitation—Teresa Rossbotham. Tonic Sol-Fa—Amy Treston. Freehand Drawing—Mary Kilmartin. Good Conduct—Margaret Jones.

Messrs J. H. Pressley and Co., Princes street, Dunedin, are supplying seeds, plants, and trees of the best possible qualities.

The British Hotel, Oxford Terrace, Christchurch, has been taken by Miss Hannah Herlihy, who has improved the house in many respects, and will conduct it in a manner leaving nothing to be desired.

Mr W. J. Cantwell's Beehive Grocery Warehouse, 180 George street, Dunedin, offers purchasers the best possible value for their money. Country orders receive special attention and are punctually forwarded.