

Rev. Mother M. St. Philomena, who went to England early in the year to attend the chapter of her Order, Notre Dame des Missions, and who for a long period was Mother Prioress of the Monastery of the Sacred Heart in this city, has been elected one of the three Assistant Mothers-General, and will remain at the Mother House, Deal, England, for at least three years.

As usual at Mount Magdala the festive season of Christmas was the occasion of much happiness for the numerous inmates, and nothing was left unthought of by the good Sisters which could possibly contribute towards this end. The children of their other institution, the Sacred Heart Orphanage, were also made merry and happy by a profusion of good things. A conspicuous feature of the day's festivities was the time-honored Christmas tree, from the well laden branches of which each one received a present.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, WANGANUI

The Mayor presided at the annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, Wanganui. In the course of his report on the year's work Brother Coleman said: Our school has been very successful, as may be seen by the result obtained in the Government Inspector's report, which was a very favorable one. Eighty-five pupils were examined, and all acquitted themselves with credit. Twelve boys were presented for the Sixth Standard, and eleven of these succeeded in passing, and securing certificates, which they received yesterday. Our school compares favorably with other schools in this district, and as an evidence that we are not behind schools elsewhere, I might mention that one of the pupils—John O'Connor—gained the scholarship to the Sacred Heart College, Auckland, which was open to all the Catholic boys' schools in the Colony. All the Marist Brothers' schools (eight in number) were represented in the competition, and I think that Wanganui should be proud that one of its boys should win three years' free tuition in one of the leading colleges in the country. The scholarship is valued at 105 guineas. The year before two of our pupils captured the St. Patrick's scholarships, and accepted them. With regard to the boys who have passed the Seventh Standard and left school, I am pleased to state that they have secured good positions, and I trust they will be sufficiently wise to pursue their studies and better their positions. The result of the night school work was satisfactory, inasmuch as two of the students obtained passes in section H of the Pharmacy examination held in October last. Our efforts in the art class have been handsomely rewarded by one of the pupils gaining first prize at the Flower Show for shading and second for drawing at the Agricultural Show, whilst others secured certificates of merit. In thus attending to the wants of the intellectual man, the physical side has not been forgotten, for the boys were able to hold more than their own in their football contests with the other schools, and the fact that there has been little or no sickness in the school clearly shows the effectiveness of their outdoor exercises. Last, but not least, we come to the main object of our work as teachers. I mean the religious training of our pupils. This has been attended to, but time alone will tell with what results.

PRIZE LIST.

Good Conduct Medal.—F. Crompton.

Christian Doctrine.—Senior division, J. Welsh.

Athletics Medal.—J. Cronin.

Standard VII.—Dux medal, John Welsh; arithmetic, John O'Connor; shorthand and bookkeeping, John Roche; French and Latin, Charles Cronin; algebra and geometry, Thomas Boyle; English medal, John Welsh.

Standard VI.—Dux of Primary Department, Kevin Crotty (this pupil wins the Caledonian Society's medal), second in general proficiency, Laurence Loftus; arithmetic, Michael Shale; freehand and geometrical drawing, Oswald Hobson; blackboard drawing, Edwin Perrett; geography and writing, Arthur Greener; reading, Gerald Mahoney; English and physiology, Kevin Crotty.

Standard V.—General proficiency, William Neylon; Christian doctrine, Ernest Stafford; English, John Richardson; arithmetic, William Neylon; reading, Thomas Crotty; geography, Horace Hunt; writing and drawing, Francis Briggs; regular attendance, Regan Kiely; geography, Jeremiah O'Leary.

Standard IV.—General proficiency, Joseph Quirk; English, John McCulloch; arithmetic, Kevin Mahoney; geography, James Richardson; reading, Joseph Quirk; writing and drawing, William Briggs; singing, George Cronin.

Standard III.—General proficiency, Owen Grogan; English, Charles Jensen; reading, Dominic Cronin; second for reading, Louis Burbush; arithmetic, Robert Hall; drawing, George Smithies; catechism, Cuthbert Corliss; geography, Celestion Neylon; spelling, Charles Lloyd; special for design, Owen Grogan.

Standard II.—English, Benie Kiely; reading, Edward Wood; arithmetic, George Corliss; drawing, Phil Corliss; writing, Roy Ahein; catechism, Thomas Bourke; spelling, Charles Greenet.

Standard I.—Reading, Peter Cronin; writing, Joseph Flynn; arithmetic, Walter Callaghan; catechism, Joseph Curran; spelling, Bernie McCarthy.

CONVENT SCHOOL, THAMES

The following children (says the 'Thames Star') received prizes for attendance at the Convent School which were presented by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly: Alice Connolly, Nellie Dunbar, Katie McDonnell, Annie Buckley, Monica Quinn, Josephine Kenny, Wm. Buckley, John Fitzpatrick, Adolph Mangan.

Good conduct prizes presented by Mrs. J. Connolly and Mr. P. Montague; Monica Quinn, Philip Smith, Wm. Buckley, Leslie Sullivan, Wm. Sutcliffe.

Trinity College Certificates.—Practical (Intermediate division pass): Kathleen McLeod, Hazel Lowe. Junior division honors: Alberta Gribble, Annie Gibson. Junior division pass: Violet George, A. Stewart, Kathleen McCabe. Preparatory division: Marie Clendon, Margery Thorne, Cuthbert Gibson, Mary Moran.

Theoretical.—Intermediate division pass: A. Gibson. Junior division honors: Margaret Corbett. Preparatory division: Kathleen McCabe, Violet George, Lucy McCabe, Mary Moran, Elsie Rattray, Lena Sullivan.

PAEROA CONVENT SCHOOL

The convent school concert given on the evening of December 19 at the Choral Hall, Paeroa, was well attended and proved most enjoyable (says the 'Chinemuri Gazette'). The first part of the programme was opened by Misses Moriarty (piano and mandolin), who played 'Alice' in finished style. Recitations were given by Master Pennell, Misses Kate and Rita Crosby, the last-named having to respond to an imperative encore. Misses Thelma Conway and Minnie Fallon gave an Irish jig and 'Rose of Killarney' in excellent style, and were recalled. In the tableau, 'Erin,' Miss Mary Crosby took the principal part, and the setting under limelight won the hearty applause of the audience. Several choruses were rendered by the school children, which reflected great credit on the Sisters of St. Joseph, who were responsible for the excellent training they acquired. The same may be said of the dramas. Masters Grimstone and Clarkin and Miss M. Crosby provoked hearty laughter by their clever acting. 'Mrs. Brown's Luggage' and 'Gossips' were well caricatured by Misses Casey, Treanor, Clarkin, and Crosby. In the 'Old Bachelor,' Masters L. Grimstone, M. McGeehan, J. Clarkin, and J. Carthy acted splendidly. Songs were rendered by Marjory McCarthy, C. Brown, and G. Hatton, and two duets (piano) were admirably rendered by Eileen Moriarty and Ivy Lucas, and Willie and Mary Crosby.

At the close of the concert Dean Hackett came on to the stage and on behalf of the Sisters thanked all present for their attendance and the hearty way in which they applauded the children. The Sisters, he said, were doing a noble work in the parish, and deserved every help. The Dean regretted that he was unable to present each child with a prize that evening. At the beginning of the year he had promised a gold medal to the boy or girl who would obtain the highest number of marks at the Christian Doctrine examination. This prize he would now hand to the winner, but as there were three pupils of equal merit, viz., J. Clarkin, J. Fitzpatrick, and Gladys Hatton, it would have to be decided by lot. Three numbers were then placed in a box, and J. Clarkin having drawn the highest, was awarded the gold cross presented by the Dean. The Sisters gave a prize each to J. Fitzpatrick and Gladys Hatton. Mr. Gibson's gold cross for regular attendance was won by Katie Handley (206½ days). Dean Hackett's prize for good conduct was won by Austin Thrupp, and Mr. Gibson's by Muriel King. The Dean's prizes in the infant school for attendance were won by J. Thrupp and Katie Crosby. After the distribution of prizes, the senior and junior pupils came on the stage and sang the first verse of 'God Save the King' as a tribute to the present King of England. During the concert the accompaniments were played by Miss Barrett, who is deserving of highest praise.