

OUR SCHOOLS.

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, WELLINGTON

The 'breaking-up' ceremony in connection with St. Patrick's College was held on the evening of December 18. The Very Rev. Father Keogh presided, and among those present were his Excellency the Governor (Lord Plunket), his Grace Archbishop Redwood, Very Rev. Father Regnault, S.M., Provincial, Very Rev. Father O'Shea, V.G., Very Rev. Father Chme, C.S.S.R., Very Rev. Father Hickson, Adm., the Mayor (Hon. T. W. Hislop) and Mrs. Hislop, Miss Eileen Ward, Colonels Collins, Bauchop, and Mabin, Rev. Kennedy Elliot, Captain Hughes, D.S.O., Hon. R. A. Loughnan, M.L.C., Mr. T. Y. Seddon, M.P., Professor Von Zedlitz, of Victoria College, Mr. T. R. Fleming, M.A., Chief Inspector of Schools, Mr. Martin Kennedy, Dr. Cahill, and Mr. W. L. Stewart, secretary to the Education Board. As usual, the proceedings were marked with the utmost enthusiasm. Musical items, which were greatly appreciated, were rendered during the evening. After the prizes had been presented by his Excellency the Governor, the Rector, Very Rev. Father Keogh, expressed the pleasure which was afforded the Faculty and boys by the presence of Lord Plunket. The Prime Minister (Sir Joseph Ward) had intended to be present, but he had found at the last moment that it was absolutely impossible for him to attend, as he was leaving next morning for Auckland. The Minister for Education (Hon. G. Fowlds), from whom the college authorities had received much kindness, would also have been glad to have been present, but he was absent at Auckland. Father Keogh then detailed the honors which students had gained in connection with the University examinations for the previous year. Last year in the junior Civil Service examination 29 candidates had passed, 23 with credit. In the senior examination two candidates had passed entirely, and five partially. One of the old boys had gained a senior scholarship in mental science at Victoria College, the first time since the college started. He was highly satisfied with the amount of zeal and energy which the staff had thrown into their work and the manner in which the scholars had responded. Reference was next made by Father Keogh to the new class rooms which were established during the preceding holidays. These were, he remarked, spacious and up-to-date. The number of resident scholars (104) was the highest for a number of years. A full commercial course had been started, also a course in German. Next year they hoped to go further and develop the physical sciences. He referred to the athletic success of the college, particularly in the football arena, and said the gymnasium, which had been practically renewed, was now a model one. So far as he could see the year had been a satisfactory one.

Lord Plunket, who was enthusiastically received, said he was always delighted to take part in any function connected with the institution. He congratulated the Rector (Father Keogh), his staff, and the students on the results of the year's work. It was his opinion that the college was bound to gain in membership and honor each succeeding year. His Excellency then asked permission to donate two prizes for the best essays on India. What he would like the students to discuss in the essays was in what way India was a benefit to New Zealand, which, in his opinion, it certainly was. 'Personally,' said his Excellency, 'I particularly object to cramming, and, therefore, I shall not indicate any book which it might be advisable for prospective competitors to study. I shall, however, just give them a hint as to the questions which I should like them to discuss in their essays. It would, I think, be a valuable thing if they would consider how India is a benefit to the Empire, and indirectly a benefit to New Zealand, which it certainly is. One point more. Some of the greatest heroes which have served the Empire in India have been Irishmen. There was heroic John Nicholson, the Goughs, and many others on the list, down to Lord Roberts. I therefore hope that students of this institution will earnestly consider the benefit to the Empire of India, that very prominent diamond in the Imperial Crown.' In conclusion he trusted the students would have an enjoyable holiday.

The Very Rev. Father Keogh heartily thanked his Excellency for his kind offer. He said that he could assure him that the students would enter upon the competitions for the prizes with the utmost zest and ardor. Lord Plunket would, he felt sure, be very pleased with their essays.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood also expressed his delight at the excellent work which had been done at the

college during the year. They were, he said, all very pleased that his Excellency had been able to be present at the function. He wished one and all a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday.

During the distribution of the prizes a number of enjoyable instrumental and vocal items were given. The singing of Miss Segrief was well appreciated, and Mr. Kenny's witty contributions created much amusement. Master B. Ryan sang two solos very nicely, and Mr. Johnston was loudly applauded for his violin items, and the students in chorus rendered the college anthem 'The Blue and White,' admirably. The stage was hung with pink and green draperies, and decorated with palms. The proceedings terminated with the students giving three cheers for his Excellency the Governor, for his Grace the Archbishop, and for the Rector.

The following is the prize list:—

General excellence (gold medal presented by the Old Boys' Association): J. Stewart; next in merit, J. Rochford, M. Devoy, M. Maher, and R. Lavery.

Good conduct (gold medal presented by his Grace the Archbishop): Hon. mention, Joseph Stewart (1905); gold medal, M. Devoy; next in merit, J. Casey, J. Fulton, W. Hennessy, P. Kane, H. Lynch, A. Roche, J. Roche, and F. Yourelle.

Diligence (gold medal presented by the Very Rev. the Provincial): Hon. mention, M. Devoy (1906); gold medal, J. Stewart; next in merit, J. Rochford, C. Outtrim, and M. Maher.

Christian doctrine: First class, gold medal presented by his Lordship the Bishop of Christchurch, J. Rochford; prize, M. Maher; next in merit, R. Lavery, R. Mulgan, and J. M'Leary. Second class, gold medal presented by his Lordship the Bishop of Auckland, W. Buckley; prize, K. Crotty; next in merit, W. Hennessy, A. Coakley, C. Coakley, P. Lawlor, and P. Kane. Third class, medal, J. Dooney; prize, J. Seymour; next in merit, E. M'Leavey, D. M'Kendry, and H. Green.

Excellence in General Class Work.—First class: Gold medal, J. Rochford; next in merit, R. Lavery, B. Ryan. Second class: Gold medal, R. Mulgan; next in merit, Leo Poff, M. Butler, H. Rasmussen. Third class: Medal, K. Crotty; next in merit, J. Casey, B. Doherty, W. Buckley. Fourth Class A: Medal, W. Hennessy; next in merit, P. Hawkins, P. Lawlor, A. Beswick. Fourth class B: Medal, Denis M'Kendry; next in merit, J. Dooney, D. Bourke, F. Kelly. Fifth class: Medal, J. Dore; next in merit, H. Green, J. Latham.

Class Subjects.—First class: Essay, prize, B. Ryan; next in merit, Rae Cameron, J. Ryan, M. Maher. English, prize, B. Ryan; next in merit, J. Rochford. Latin, prize, J. Rochford; next in merit, J. Ryan. French, prize, R. Lavery; next in merit, J. Rochford, B. Ryan. Geometry and trigonometry, prize, J. Rochford; next in merit, A. Cullen, R. Lavery. Arithmetic and algebra, prize, J. Rochford; next in merit, R. Lavery, A. Cullen.

Second Class.—Essay, prize, J. Stewart; next in merit, H. Rasmussen, R. Mulgan, E. Burke, M. Butler. English, prize, R. Mulgan; next in merit, H. Lynch, M. Butler, Leo Poff. Latin, prize, R. Mulgan; next in merit, H. Rasmussen, J. Roche. French, prize, H. Rasmussen; next in merit, R. Mulgan, L. Poff, M. Butler, H. Lynch. Geometry and algebra, prize, R. Mulgan; next in merit, L. Poff, J. Fulton. Arithmetic, prize, L. Poff; next in merit, R. Mulgan, C. Outtrim, M. Butler. Drawing, prize, R. Mulgan; next in merit, L. Poff, C. Baker.

Third Class.—Essay, prize, R. Doherty; next in merit, A. Coakley, J. Hogan, K. Crotty. English, prize, K. Crotty; next in merit, W. Buckley, C. Coakley, J. Casey. Latin, prize, K. Crotty; next in merit, J. Casey, J. Box, W. Buckley. French, prize, K. Crotty; next in merit, J. Hogan, J. Box, J. Casey. German, prize, K. Crotty; next in merit, J. Casey, J. Hogan, J. Box. Arithmetic, prize, W. Buckley; next in merit, J. Casey, L. Doherty, C. O'Rourke. Geometry and algebra, prize, W. Buckley; next in merit, B. Doherty, J. Box, J. Casey. Drawing, prize, B. Doherty; next in merit, W. Bennett, C. Coakley.

Fourth Class A.—Essay, prize, A. Simpson; next in merit, W. Hennessy, A. Roche, E. Simpson. English, prize, P. Hawkins; next in merit, W. Hennessy, P. Lawlor, A. Simpson, A. Beswick. Latin, prize, C. Andrews; next in merit, P. Blake, J. Engel, W. Hennessy, T. Stack. French, prize, L. Duffou; next in merit, W. Hennessy, P. Morland, P. Lawlor. German, prize, P. Hawkins; next in merit, J. Engel, W. Hennessy, T. Stack, C. Andrews. Arithmetic, prize, A. Beswick; next in merit, W. Hennessy, P. Hawkins, W. Neylon, J. McGinley. Geometry and al-