

And Noella? Ah! she simply added that, after all her soul had been poured out in prayer, a holy calm fell on her from above; her tear-drained eyes closed as in peaceful sleep; but not before they, too, had seen the awful darkness pierced by a keen lance of light.—a broad white ray thrown out across the sea, its source the wounded side of Christ's carved effigy,—that wound from which, with tenderest pity thrilling her baby-heart, she once had tried to wipe the crimson stain.—*Ave Maria.*

SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS.

CONVENT SCHOOLS, QUEENSTOWN.

On the occasion of the annual prize distribution at St. Joseph's School, Queenstown, conducted by the Dominican Nuns, a very enjoyable entertainment was given by the pupils, consisting of vocal and instrumental selections and recitations. The Rev. Father O'Donnell, in dismissing the children (says the local *Mail*), referred briefly to their work during the year, and wished them a pleasant holiday.

The following received prizes:—

Girls—M. Bonner, M. Connell, E. Jones, K. Kelly, M. Kelly, N. Marshall, M. M'Bride, M. McCarthy, A. McNeil, C. McLeely, J. McLeely, M. M'Leely, E. Price, M. Richards, and K. Smith.

Boys—J. Black, A. Bonner, P. Busbridge, J. Busbridge, J. Connell, S. Firth, D. Ferry, T. Kelly, C. D. F., and L. M'Bride, J. McChesney, J. McNeil, and P. and T. Richards.

There was a fair attendance of the friends of the pupils and others at the prize distribution in connection with St. Catherine's School, Queenstown, when an excellent entertainment was given. The first item on the programme was a scene from 'The Merchant of Venice.' One end of the room had been fitted up for the purpose, and the staging reflected great credit on the Sisters who had also trained the young performers with great care. The performance on the whole would compare favourably with that of many amateur dramatic societies. The remainder of the programme consisted of pianoforte solos by Misses Jopp, N. Douglas, M. Carr, and Allan; a pianoforte duet, Misses V. and M. Firth; a recitation, the French class; choruses, singing class; a recitation, Misses Butler, Marshall, and McNeil; vocal duet, Misses K. and M. Robertson; and a vocal solo, Miss Hotop. The accompaniments were efficiently played by Miss A. Douglas.

At the conclusion of the entertainment the Rev. Father O'Donnell congratulated the pupils on the high standard of excellence attained by them. He hoped that they would strive to do as well in the battle of life, and that each succeeding year would place them higher and higher on the ladder of knowledge.

One of the schoolrooms had been set apart for an exhibition of art work done in the convent. This room was tastefully decorated with the various articles, the paintings and other work being excellent. Amongst those deserving of special mention, were several paintings in oils by Miss Douglas, panel paintings by Miss L. May, mirror paintings by Miss Jopp, panels by Miss McBride, carving by Miss B. Allen and Miss J. Black, and art and needle work by Misses D. Butler, M. Carr, L. Carr, B. Clancy, N. Douglas, R. Walde, N. McNeil, and M. Sorensons. Taken throughout the work was of a high standard, and very creditable to pupils and teachers.

The following is the prize list:—

INTERMEDIATE GRADE—CLASS B.

English.—Ada Douglas; hon. mention: T. Jopp, J. Black, N. McNeil, C. Marshall, R. Walde, D. Butler, and B. Clancy.

Arithmetic.—Nellie McNeil; hon. mention: A. Douglas, T. Jopp, C. Marshall, B. Clancy, R. Walde and D. Butler.

French.—A. Douglas; hon. mention: T. Jopp, and J. Black.

Latin.—A. Douglas.

Euclid.—A. Douglas; hon. mention: N. McNeil and C. Marshall.

Algebra.—A. Douglas, won by cut; equal: T. Jopp, N. McNeil, J. Black, C. Marshall, and R. Walde.

English Literature.—A. Douglas; hon. mention: T. Jopp, J. Black, N. McNeil, B. Clancy, C. Marshall, R. Walde, and D. Butler.

INTERMEDIATE—CLASS A.

English.—Nellie Douglas; hon. mention: Mollie Carr, L. May, and M. Sorenson.

French.—Rose Walde; hon. mention: N. McNeil, M. Carr, L. May, C. Marshall, D. Butler, N. Douglas, B. Clancy, and M. Sorenson.

GENERAL PRIZES.

Religious Knowledge.—Mollie Carr; hon. mention: B. Clancy, D. Butler, N. McNeil and C. Marshall.

Painting.—T. Jopp; hon. mention: A. Douglas and L. May.

Music.—Mollie Carr.

Class Singing.—Jeannie Black.

Freehand Drawing.—C. Marshall; hon. mention: N. Douglas, J. Black, N. McNeil, D. Butler, R. Walde, M. Carr and M. Sorenson.

Fancy Needlework.—Lillie May, won by cut; equal: A. Douglas, T. Jopp, J. Black, N. McNeil, and M. Sorenson.

Mountmellick Work.—B. Clancy, won by cut; equal: A. Douglas, T. Jopp and N. Douglas.

Politeness.—Lillie May.

Order.—Mary Sorenson.

Good Conduct.—Ada Douglas.

Wreath for amiability awarded by the votes of her companions to T. Jopp.

A. Douglas, T. Jopp and L. May each received a silver medal for general excellence, the first named being dux of the school.

AUCKLAND SCHOOLS.

ST. PATRICK'S HIGH SCHOOL.

There was a large attendance of pupils, also their parents and friends, at St. Patrick's High School, Auckland, on the occasion of the annual breaking-up entertainment, which was provided by the pupils. There was on exhibition a fine display of the work of the pupils in the form of drawings, paintings, panels, drapes, embroidery, drawn-thread work, point lace, etc., which showed that the education of the pupils in these accomplishments had been well attended to, in addition to the ordinary branches of education. The work shown was all excellent (says a local paper), and some of it very beautiful, and the Sisters, who are responsible for the education of the pupils in this school, deserve great credit for the pains and care which they have evidently bestowed upon the scholars.

The Rev. Dean O'Reilly presided at the entertainment, in the absence of the Bishop and a number of priests were present. The concert opened with a piano duet by Misses J. Quinn and Corley, after which the pupils sang a chorus. Miss Gladys Foley then read an address from the pupils to the Reverend Fathers, in which warm Christmas greetings were voiced. Miss A. Graham sang 'Old Cremona.' Misses Quinn and Corley played another duet, and Miss Rist contributed a recitation, 'Holly and ivy.' Miss F. Quinn and Miss Graham sang a duet, which was followed by an instrumental solo by Miss J. Quinn. Miss Ricketts recited 'Farewell,' and Misses F. Quinn and Graham sang 'Maids of the greenwood.'

The distribution of Trinity College musical certificates won by pupils of the school then took place. The following is the list:—Senior Pass: Mary Garvey. Intermediate Pass: Maud White. Junior Passes: Lily Fleming, Florence Beehan, Lily Thorne, Edith Davey.

ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL, PARNELL.

The following is the prize list in connection with St. John's High School, Parnell, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy:—

Standard VII.—Frances McCabe, study, drawing, composition, and work; Evelyn Hogan, printing, writing, science, and study; Evvie Baker, music and study; — Collins, politeness and general improvement.

Standard VI.—Clarice Yates, study and plain sewing; Rose McCabe, drawing and general improvement.

Standard V.—Maud Carrington, good conduct and study; McVeigh, music and general improvement; Kathleen Keogh, arithmetic and grammar.

Standard III.—Rose Yates, writing, drawing, and study; — Horsey, music and general improvement; Florence Carrington, general improvement.

Standard II.—Dorothy Hansen, arithmetic and plain sewing; Ethel Bowerman, writing and geography; — Hawkswood, reading and writing; MacCurdy, geography and arithmetic.

Standard I.—Gladys Laram, tables and plain sewing; — Woodhouse, reading and writing.

Infants.—Master Woodhouse, politeness and reading; — Tighe, sewing, spelling, and reading; Edith Johnston, general improvement; — O'Keefe, writing and numbers; — Johnson, writing and numbers; Vera Woodhouse, amiability; Master Sydney Yates, singing and numbers.

Special prizes.—Frances McCabe, painting; Evelyn Hogan, painting; Mary O'Sullivan, painting; Florrie McVeigh, music; Ethel Bowerman, catechism.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT SCHOOL, PONSONBY.

An entertainment of a very pleasing nature and varied character was given by the pupils of St. Mary's Convent High School, Ponsonby, Auckland, on the occasion of the annual distribution of prizes. Among those present were the Very Rev. Dr. Egan, and the Rev. Fathers Patterson, Golden, Purton, and Kamp, and Mr. Napier, M.H.R. At the conclusion of the entertainment, which was of a very high order of merit, the prizes were presented by the Very Rev. Dr. Egan and Mrs. Napier.

The following is the list:—

Matriculation and Civil Service Classes: — Jones, English and algebra; Ellen Casey, science and geography; May McGuire, arithmetic and English; — Herlihy, composition; Laura Condon, 2nd arithmetic and science; Ivy Ansley, composition; Ada Fitzpatrick, music and singing.

Standard VII.—Violet Fitzpatrick, arithmetic and algebra; — Meehan, English and algebra; — Taylor, composition and writing; Hannah McCoy, science and application; Sarah Williams, general improvement; Lily Corcoran, painting and composition.

Standard VI.—Corbett, arithmetic and science; Matilda Brown, geography and composition; Norah Lynch, composition and geography; Marie Fallon, music; Mary Casey, arithmetic; Minnie Brown, needlework and composition; Toosy Brown, composition; Pauline Dempsey, elocution and composition; Amelia Buck, general improvement; — Maudslay, general improvement.

Standard V.—Nellie Mahoney, reading and arithmetic; Ellen Brown, composition and arithmetic; Ella Brown, arithmetic and reading; Ethel Alison, general improvement; Nellie Meehan, reading and composition; Julia Corbett, conduct and 2nd composition; Mazie Ansley, composition; Elsie Court, French; Rita Sullivan, music; Clarice Sheath, reading.

Standard IV.—Marie Ralph, reading and geography; Dela Lees, conduct and reading; Elsie Bray, writing and second composition; Alda Ralph, arithmetic and reading; Winnie Cumisky, composition and spelling; Gertrude Bray, reading and elocution; Teresa Cullen, general improvement.

Standard III.—Lenore Johnston, geography and elocution; Monica Gibbons, arithmetic and geography; Katie Mahoney, composition; Eva Johnston, reading; Kathleen Meehan, geography and spelling; Emily Peake, writing; Georgina Mullin, general improvement.