

"Hail to Lady Dufferin,  
Erin's daughter fair,  
A thousand, thousand welcomes  
To our dear St. Joseph's Home."

Three young ladies—Miss Katie Kidd, Miss Jordan, and Miss Small—then advanced to the foot of the dais, and the first-named, with admirable intonation, read the following address :—

"May it please your Excellencies :

"To receive the expression of our most cordial welcome to our dear 'Convent of St. Joseph.'

"When we heard of the enthusiastic reception your Excellencies everywhere met with since your arrival in our country, we scarcely expected that we would have the honour of offering the same heartfelt greeting in our secluded home : but with the condescension belonging to true nobility, your Excellencies have offered us an opportunity of presenting our good wishes in person.

"To the noble Countess Dufferin we offer a most affectionate welcome. Your Excellency has ever been a bright ornament of our sex in your own fair land, and we are proud that you have been placed as its guiding star in ours.

"We take the opportunity of this gracious visit to express to your Excellencies the respect and love we feel towards our Sovereign Lady the Queen, who is endeared to us by her many amiable qualities, and now more than ever in placing one of Erin's noble sons as her representative in Canada.

"We pray that your Excellencies may enjoy a long and prosperous life, rich in the love and blessings of the people.

"THE PUPILS OF ST. JOSEPH'S.

"Toronto, Oct. 21st, 1872."

Miss Jordan and Miss Small presented bouquets to Lord and Lady Dufferin, and the interesting trio retired.

Miss Payne then sang, with beautiful expression, the exquisite ballad composed by Lady Dufferin, mother of the present Earl—"I'm sitting on the stile, Mary."

His Excellency, on the conclusion of the song, rose and expressed his warmest thanks for the very kind reception which they had extended to Lady Dufferin and himself. Nothing could have been more agreeable to their feelings than the pleasant manner in which they had been welcomed, as testified in the charming little song which had greeted them, and still more in giving him the pleasure of listening to his mother's song, so admirably sung. He was informed that the sisters of that community not only were occupied with the education of the young ladies whom he saw before him, but that they went forth every day to the different educational establishments in the city, and there performed that excellent work to which they had so nobly devoted themselves. It was a pleasure to him to testify his deep sympathy with them in the discharge of their laborious duties, and his earnest hopes that they might long live to see the fruit of their labours in the growing perfections of those ladies, over whom they exercised so wholesome and beneficial a superintendence. He complimented them upon the appearance of their pupils, and upon the wise and feeling manner in which the address was read. He thanked them as the representative of Her Majesty, for their expressions of loyalty, and could assure those young ladies, that it was a matter of solicitude to the Queen that the education which they received in this country should be worthy of its high destinies and of the future which lay before them. In conclusion he ventured to ask the authorities of the institution to grant a holiday to their charming pupils.

Miss Payne again took a seat at the piano, and, in concert with Miss McFarlane, sang "The last Rose of Summer," with touching expression. Several of the junior pupils advanced to the dais, and one of them, a pretty little girl about seven years of age, named Minnie Paddon, surprised and delighted their Excellencies by addressing Lady Dufferin in a firm and distinct voice to the following effect :—

"Dear Lady Dufferin, the little children of St. Joseph's wish to present you with an address, as well as the young ladies. Sister says that flowers have a language, and we are sure that you understand it, because you are a very wise lady ; so we have brought these pretty flowers to say everything beautiful for us, who do not know how to say anything but—thank you for your kind visit."

Miss Paddon then presented her bouquet to Her Excellency, who shook hands with her. Lord Dufferin also took the little creature by the hand, kissed her, and asked her several questions. His Excellency then walked round the room, and conversed with most of the young ladies present, after which all rose and sang "God save the Queen," and the viceregal party departed.

## 11. VISIT TO LORETTO LADIES' SCHOOL AND DE LA SALLE.

In the afternoon of the 23rd, Lord and Lady Dufferin visited

three Roman Catholic institutions. The first was Loretto Abbey, where somewhat extensive preparations had been made to give their Excellencies a fitting reception. The whole of the arrangements were characterised by the good taste and high tone which distinguish the ladies who have charge of this aristocratic seminary. A number of flags floated above the trees outside the building, and inside mottoes and decorations of every kind abounded. Among the legends which found places on the walls of the rooms and passages, were, "Long Live Lord Dufferin," "Welcome Lady Dufferin," "Per vias rectas," "Welcome to Loretto." These were surrounded by tasteful designs in Autumn leaves and evergreens, and gave a charming appearance to the localities in which they were situated. The prettiest part of the picture, however, was that formed by the residents themselves. The young ladies, of all ages, from budding womanhood down to infancy, attired in elegant costumes of white and blue, contrasting and relieved by the sober community dress, in which the Ladies of Loretto mixed in the throng, presented an appearance which was afterwards aptly likened by His Excellency to a bed of flowers in the sunshine. The order and good breeding manifested by these young ladies bore testimony to the admirable training they had received in the institution. The pupils were congregated in the drawing-room overlooking the grounds, and in the ante-room a large number of ladies from all parts of the city were assembled. At the door, a Archbishop's "Guarda Nobile" of little boys, wearing sashes, on which was inscribed the motto "Per vias rectas," and carrying crosses from which bannerets depended, awaited the arrival of the vice-regal party. Their Excellencies drove up to the door at three o'clock, followed by Col. Fletcher on horseback. They were received by His Grace, who presented to them the Rev. Mother Teresa, superior of the whole order in Canada ; the Rev. Mother Ignatia, superior of the Toronto community ; and the chief reverend clergy of the city. They were at once conducted to the upper end of the drawing-room, while the young ladies sang the national anthem. The Archbishop presented Mr. Moylan, Inspector of the Provincial Penitentiary, Dr. Thorburn, the Physician, and Mr. Lynch, of Brampton, to the Earl and Countess, and a hymn of welcome, composed for the occasion, was then sung by the pupils, Miss McDougall taking the solo part. Miss McDougall, on the conclusion of the song, advanced and read with admirable expression the following address :—

"May it please Your Excellencies,

"We, the community and pupils of Loretto Abbey, hail with exquisite delight the presence of Your Excellency and the Countess of Dufferin, and bid you ten thousand welcomes from the bottom of our young hearts, and beg to express to Your Excellency a deep sense of gratitude for this most gracious visit. We feel especially delighted to find Her Excellency Lady Dufferin amongst us. Her graceful dignity and affability entwined in her many virtues we look to as a beautiful model for us.

"Our studies are numerous, our rules gently strict, to correct—the good Sisters tell us—the frivolity and restlessness of youth, and to form habits of careful thought and prudent reserve. We hope to profit by those lessons, and to become in society good women as we are good children now.

"We are encouraged by the amiability and kind condescension of Your Excellency to charge you with a humble message to Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, to tell her how much we esteem, admire, and love her, and to thank her for the choice she has always made of Governors, but especially for the last, the best and kindest of all."

Miss McDougall handed the address to Lord Dufferin, and several of the smallest children in the school presented bouquets to their Excellencies, the Archbishop, Col. Fletcher, and one or two of the others. Miss McDougall then sang "The Irish Emigrant's Farewell," in a clear, sweet soprano voice, and with an expression suited to the pathos of the song, which evidently affected His Excellency, by whose mother this touching ballad was composed. A part song followed, and His Grace, the Archbishop of Toronto, then rose and, addressing the Governor-General, said :—"Your Excellency, I am sure, must have remarked an air of simple but noble dignity of manners in this institution. This distinguished trait took its rise in the noblest blood of England. The kind visit of your Excellency, the representative of Her Majesty, our beloved Queen, to this institution, forms a graceful historic parallax, if I may use the expression, as the history of this order or community will show. In the seventeenth century, during the great troubles and religious convulsions and persecutions, a number of English Catholic ladies fled from their native land, to practise in peace and seclusion the holy religion of their conscience. The Duke of Bavaria and Prince Elector of the sacred Roman Empire, Maximilian Emmanuel, kindly received those noble ladies and assigned to them one of his palaces near Munich, with ample revenues. There those ladies consoled themselves in their exile by prayer,