

could hardly be surpassed. Every sentence of his lengthy part was brought out with splendid effect, and every syllable was distinctly heard in the remotest corner of the hall. His bearing and gestures too, whether accompanying the affectionate words of the fond father, the passionate outbursts of the terrible Norseman, or the generous sentiments of the conquered hero revealed histrionic abilities of no common order. Messrs. J. P. Smith and S. C. Hallisey, taking respectively the rôle of the noble hearted patriot who preferred chains and servitude to the highest honors in the gift of his country's foes, and the despicable character, who to advance himself would betray his king and see his native land groan under the yoke of the barbarians, cleverly sustained the favourable impressions their former presentations on the College boards invariably left. Mr. Smith, especially, by his clear and energetic enunciation of lofty principles won round after round of applause. Perhaps no part in the play is more difficult to thoroughly enter into than that of Alfred's faithful retainer Conrad, where the deepest grief gives place to feelings bordering on despair, and these to hope, faint at first but steadily growing firmer, until it changes to happy certainty. Here, however, the acting of Mr. J. R. O'Connor was masterful and thrilling. He was followed with the most eager attention, and his excellent declamation highly praised.

Messrs. F. L. French, Ivers, Donovan, Brunette and Paradis approached perfection in their various parts, as nearly as the harshest critic could reasonably insist upon; Mr. French particularly, by his at times impassioned but ever natural patriotic utterances was more than once warmly applauded. Mr. Ivers turned every ludicrous point to the best advantage, and repeatedly brought down the house. Master Lamoureux, as Gurmund, the young son of the Danish King, fairly captivated the audience, and was a favorite throughout the entire piece. Mr. A. M. Plunkett took the part of Inguar, and neither in acting or speaking did he betray the fact that this was his first appearance before an audience, and acquitted himself in a very creditable manner. The soldiers were an important feature of drama. Their costumes, the outcome of a faithful study of the military dress of the period

were admirably done, and it was difficult to believe that the fierce and swarthy mailed warriors were beardless and peaceably disposed youths, who spend their days on the class-room benches.

The soldiers showed to the best advantage in the closing scene when the magnificent charge of the Saxons that resulted in the final overthrow of the Danes formed a realistic picture, which could not fail to please the most critical.

This patriotic performance, so attractive in itself by its beauty of expression, its thorough and striking reproduction of the manners and customs of the ancient Danes and Saxons, and the large number of exalted historical personages introduced, presented throughout faultlessly and at times superbly, early won from the vast audience an interest and sympathy which never once flagged. It was after eleven o'clock when the curtain fell for the last time, but it was the closing scene that one and all pronounced grandest. Mr. Woods, as Alfred, was at his best here, and the manner in which the greatest of Alfred's services to his country—the institution of the trial by jury—is made the conclusion of the play is happy and touching.

A number of well chosen pieces were discoursed by the College Band between the acts, among others Gouyette's "Les Sauterelles" Mullet's "Valentine de Milan" and "Le Manzanarez" by Marie. The excellent style in which these difficult selections were rendered was heartily applauded; it would indeed reflect credit on any band in the capital, and eloquently attests the highly satisfactory results our musicians have attained by constant practice under their efficient and pains taking leader, Rev. Father Gervais.

This brings our dramatic entertainments to a close for the present season. The members of the Association are to be congratulated on their splendid success during the past year; the large and intelligent audiences their different presentations have drawn, particularly that of Tuesday night last shows the high estimation in which their artistic powers are held by the people of Ottawa, and exemplifies the assertion of Edwy, that "the boy who proves himself a man does all a man can do." Had we to award the prize of excellence for individual success scored we would be embarrassed indeed to discriminate. The success scored by the students is