

given by the pupils of St. Patrick's Academy, Point St. Charles, and we must say that it was one of the most enjoyable evenings we have spent for some time. The large hall of the Academy was tastefully decorated for the occasion, and there were about 600 persons present; among whom we noticed Rev. Canon Leblanc, a few other priests whose names we did not learn, Messrs. Myles Murphy, A. Brogan, N.P., &c. The programme consisted of vocal and instrumental music, recitations, and two dramas—one in French, entitled "Le Medicin Malgré lui," in which ten of the pupils took part; the other, a comedy entitled "The Ghost" was performed by Masters T. Wall, A. McVey, E. Colfer, F. Salmon, R. Phelan, J. Dorion, M. Monaghan, and P. Brennan being crier of THE SUN. In both pieces the performers acquitted themselves in a very creditable manner, Masters Wall, McVey, Colfer and Phelan being specially deserving of mention. Father Ryan's grand poem, "Erin's Flag," was recited by Master Wm. Wall in fine style, and was most enthusiastically applauded. We regret that pressure on our space prevents us giving a more extended report, but we cannot conclude without expressing our thanks to the worthy and devoted Principal of the Academy, Professor McKay, under whose care parents may rest assured their children will receive a sound Catholic and commercial education which will fit them for important and responsible position in life.—*The Sun*.

Bellevue Convent, St. Foye Road.

We always visit a well-conducted institution with the same pleasing emotions, that we do a highly cultivated garden. Nothing but the useful and the ornamental meets the eye. The rank weeds have been subdued and the ground has been judiciously laid out and tilled. Here blooms the bright and the delicate flower, fragrant with its own perfume and destined to ornament the boudoir or the drawing-room; there, thrives the less beautiful but more useful plant and vegetable; but everywhere the evidences of the minutest care and the most skilful culture are evident. Such are the ornamental and useful branches of education. Yesterday 30th June we had the pleasure of witnessing one of the happy events that marked the scholastic year 1874-75, the exhibition of the Bellevue convent, St. Foye Road, under the charge of the far-famed ladies of the Congregation de Notre Dame. Though it is not the first we had the privilege of attending the distribution of prizes at this educational establishment, which ranks one of highest in the Dominion the programme performed by the young ladies, yesterday far exceeded our fairest anticipations. The instrumental and vocal music could not be surpassed. The proficiency of the pupils in this accomplishment is really marvellous. Among the pleasing features of the programme were a solo by Miss Venner, and a duett by the Misses Labelle of Montreal; those young ladies' vocal powers won the enthusiastic admiration and elicited the warmest applause of all present. Indeed for careful training, strength and sweetness, the voice of those young ladies could not, to say the least, easily be surpassed. A "Bird Cantata" was also splendidly rendered by Misses. Laroche, Venner, Rocket and Johnston. In Elocution, both French and English, the pupils shew careful and methodical training. It was indeed a relief to hear those two leading languages of the day, of which the knowledge is so important in a country like ours, spoken with so much precision and with a pronunciation so correct and elegant. In this particular regard, we may say that the reputation of Bellevue convent stands high and unsurpassed. Pupils who come out of this Institution after a complete course of studies speak both languages equally well. We were

agreeably surprised to see rewards granted, as stimulants of emulation in the pursuit of knowledge by His Excellency Lord Dufferin. We regret that we have not been able to retain the names of all those who had the honor to compete; the victorious alone reached our ear; the silver medal won by Miss Johnston, and the bronze medal by Miss Blouin. The diplomas and gold medals were received by Miss Laroche and Miss Boyce. Those young ladies have completed their course of studies in this establishment, with the greatest satisfaction. Two addresses in French and English were admirably well spoken by Miss O'Grady and Miss Laberge, whose natural and distinguished elocution everybody very much admired. We can truly say, that in the convent of Bellevue is found all that is calculated to fit a young lady to adorn and dignify domestic and social life, even in the highest circles. No more beautiful or more healthy boarding-school, for young ladies, than Bellevue, exists in the country. Bishop Persico presided the *seance*, and, together with Madame Caron, distributed the rewards, crowns and Medals to the pupils. The venerable Bishop congratulated, in the English language, the pupils and their teachers of this splendid success: he was particularly happy and graceful. Revd. Mr. Cazeau addressed also the pupils in French; and after a lovely festival of about two hours duration, the *elite* audience retired expressing highly its satisfaction and admiration.

EDUCATIONAL.

The Centennial and Education.

The judicious Dr. Whewell aptly styled the first of the world's fairs "the great university of 1851." Ever since that time its educating influences have been apparent, and not solely in the new departures it has occasioned in industry and science. Its utility has been recognized in the frequency with which the civilized nations have provided for such exhibitions, each on a grander and more comprehensive scale than its predecessors. In the pains taken by governments, by manufacturers, by all who avail themselves of skilled labor, to enable those in their employ to study these industrial collections, proof is to be found of the stimulus they have given to invention, to science, and to art. Now, the educational effects of the International Exhibition of 1876 will have one wholly exceptional aspect which we have not yet seen considered. Until now these gatherings have been summoned in the midst of long-settled communities, the inheritors of centuries of industrial culture. It is true that each looker on has beheld products of distant lands which were novel to him, and perhaps suggestive; yet in the main they were all alike in being the gradually developed products of approximately coeval civilizations. Next year the experience of the untraveled American—that is to say, of the great mass of our best artisans—will be of a wholly different sort. He will see for the first time, and in infinite variety, things which he has till now but read of, or never heard of at all; and if the opportunities for study so afforded do not leave distinct traces upon our figure industries, then the reputation of American ingenuity and adaptable skill will be wholly belied. It has been too much the fashion to assume, with our wonted self-complacency, that we have invited foreign nations hither simply that they may marvel at the wondrous fruit of a century's growth. A year hence we may have discovered that we have at least as much to learn from them and have, moreover, such an opportunity for learning as was never vouchsafed to a nation before. It is in this view of the case, and in view also of the historical importance of the occasion, that we appeal to those immediately charged with the direction of education throughout the land, to do what they can to invest the exhibition with its proper dignity, and at the same time to derive from it the utmost possible benefit. "Better twenty years of Europe than cycle of Cathay" is not without its application to the humdrum routine of collegiate study. A fortnight