Meekly Catholio

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN CANADA

Reddite qua sunt Casaris, Casari; et qu sunt Dei, Deo .- Matt. 22: 21.

Vol V

Toronto, Saturday Nov. 14, 1891.

No 40

ENTERTAINMENT AT LORETTO ABBEY.

The 24th anniversary of the episcopal consecration of His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto was celebrated at Loretto Abbey on Tuesday last, in the excellent manner for which this institution is famous. A choice programme had been prepared under the supervision of Sister Margaret, and was carried out without a flaw. Two raised platforms of eight seats each were placed on either side of the stage, upon which some hundred of the pupils, prettily dressed in white, were seated, whilst the background was formed of a raised pedestal upon which a number of the younger pupils sat, the top being surmounted by a young lady representing the angel of Loretto. A programme of recitations and music, vocal and instrumental, then followed, during portion of which a magnificent bouquet of flowers was presented by the pupils to the Archbishop. A feature of note was the "Song of Welcome," composed for the occasion, the words by S. M. A. the music by Signor d'Auria, the soloist being Miss Staunton. This was followed by an address, "Sacerdos in Aeternum," delivered by Misses Slaven and Kirk, and "Foctal Greatings" from what was prattily termed in the "Festal Greetings" from, what was prettily termed in the programme, the Angels of Leretto. Recitations by Miss Dean of "The Building of Santa Sophia, and the "Minuet" by Miss Cook, during which latter a graceful rendering of the stately minuet was danced, and "Tasso's Coronation" by the Elecution Class and by Miss O'Meara were given. A harp solo by Miss Chopitea, accompanied by Miss Miller on violin, was ably rendered, as were the vocal numbers of Misses Petley, McCam and Hawley. The singing of Gounod's "Are Maria" by Miss Petley with violin obligato by Miss Muldrew, was done in a manner which indicated the careful training of the Sisters of a voice of great compass and purity of tone, the same remarks being applicable to Miss McCann. At the close His Grace made one of his characteristic addresses to the pupils, thanking them for the entertainment provided and the good Sisters for the feeling that prompted it, characterizing the performance as the best seen by him at any of the establishments, concluding by promising the pupils a holiday the following day.

Amongst the clergy present beside His Grace were His Lordship Bishop O'Compared Landon, who was accompanied by Bar

ship Bishop O'Connor of London, who was accompanied by Rev. Father Flannery of the Review staff, Very Rev. Vicars-General Rooney and McCann, Deans Cassidy and Harris, Rev. Provincial Marijon, O.S.B., Rev. Father McInerney, Superior Redemptorist community, and Rev. Fathers O'Donoghue, O.S.B., Brennan, O.S.B., Crogan, C.SS.R. LaMarche, Williams, Kelly, Coyle, Cruise, Lynch, McBride Lawlor and several others. At the close all the above, with Dr. McKenna, Major Gray and Messrs. J. F. Kirk and Ph. DeGruchy, partook of a sumptuous repast provided by the good Sisters of Loretto Abbey.

ST. MARY'S ALTAR SOCIETY CONCERT.

On 'Thursday night, in St. Andrew's Hall, a concert was given under the auspices of the Ladies of the Altar Society of St. Mary's Church. Long before 8 o'clock the large hall was filled to overcrowding, every inch of room down either aisle being filled with camp stools, and standing room unattainable. The stage was very prettily draped and ornamented with exquisite taste, giving to its usual barrenness the appearance of a cheerful drawing-room. This change was brought about as a result of the work of the ladies during the previous afternoon, aided by

Mossrs. Byron & Ryan, and Devaney Bros., who kindly loaned the furniture and draperies for the occasion. The chairman, Mr. DeGruchy, in a few opening remarks, thanked the audience for their presence there that evening, testifying as it did to the appreciation of former entertainments given under these ladies auspices, and also as showing the strong bond of attachment between the pastor and people of St. Mary's, which but required intimation that any undertaking was for his benefit or for the beautification of St. Mary's church and a magnificent showing was the result, and to the adornment of the church, viz., the frescoing of the sanctuary, would the proceeds of this evening be devoted. A choice programme of vocal and instrumental music, recitation and legerdemain was then commenced by the boys of the sanctuary, accompanied on the cornet by their leader. Prof. McEvoy, singing the chorus, "Moonlight on the Lake," which they rendered in such a manner as to secure a merited enchore. The ever-popular favorite, Miss Maudie Alexander, whose name on a programme is a guarantee of success, delighted the audience by her songs, in which she was accompanied on the guitar by her father, Mr. Fred Alexander. A duett on the mandolin and guitar by these two able musicians also being given in first class style. Mr. Harry Rich who, it is safe to say, has no peer upon the concert stage as a comic singer kept the audience in a continuous roar of laughter by his character sketches and if the old maxim, "laugh and grow fat," is still in force, consider-able corpulency amongst St. Mary's people will ensue. In the recitation of "King Robert of Sicily" Misss Cumming undertok a task capable of testing the merits of any elocutionist, and the able manner in which she performed it showed that she possessed elocutionary talents of no mean order.

The mention of the name of Miss Sadie Burns caused an ovation, and the manner in which she sang her number, "Her Bright Eyes," and as enchore "The Wearing of the Green," was sufficient to show that the applause in advance was no more than her due, and that the high encomiums showered upon her for her performance of the character of Pitti Sing in in the "Mikado" given for the benefit of Sunnyside and other charities by a company of amateurs last spring, was not out of place. Of prepossessing appearance, her every action before the audience showed the results of the careful convent training by the Sisters of Loretto. The same remarks are also applicable to Miss Kate Clarke, who, an universal favorite, added to her laurels another chaplet, her voice being as pure and full as ever, and withal with a pathos rendering exceedingly sweet the exquisite Irish melodies of Tom Moore. Mr. Tapsfield, whose name is so well known on Catholic church programmes, sang with her usual vim.

An unexpected treat was given the audience by Mr. Barton, who had accompanied Miss Burns' song with a violin obligato, consenting, entirely upprepared as he was, to render a selection of Irish airs upon the violin. Under his skilful touch these old airs seemed to take on new life and to come back redolent with the aroma and fragrance of the Irish hills. Prof. Dubois, during the intermission, performed many feats of legerdemain, that caused the people to marvel at his skill. To every number on the programme enchores were accorded, and with the singing of God Save the Queen the evening was brought to a close. The committee, to whose instrumentality the success of the entertainment was due, consisted of Mrs. Madden, Mrs. Herbert and Miss McShane, and a corps of ushers under the directions of Dr.

McMahon did yeoman service in providing accommodation and keeping order.