

procession to St. Joseph's church, where Grand High Mass was sung by Rev. Father Chaborel, assisted by Rev. Father Coutlee and Rev. Brother Gauvreau as deacon and sub-deacon respectively.

During the service the college choir, under the direction of Rev. Father Gervais, rendered several hymns appropriate to the day. Rev. Father McGuckin, President of the College, delivered a most touching and eloquent sermon on the life and labors of St. Patrick. That plainness, simplicity, and dignity of expression so characteristic of the Rev. Father's sermons, were on this occasion coupled with more than usual warmth and fervour of pronouncement. At the close he most earnestly exhorted all to imitate the humility, perseverance and holy life of St. Patrick, and to continue in their attachment for that cherished faith which neither persecutions, penal laws, nor inducements to apostacy, could avail in uprooting from the hearts of the Irish people.

#### THE BANQUET.

For many years it has been the custom with the students of Ottawa College to celebrate St. Patrick's day with a grand banquet. The students of last year, considering all circumstances, decided not to have a banquet, but that the money usually spent thus, would be forwarded to the treasurer of the Parnell Defence Fund. Such a generous act as this deserves more than a passing notice, for when such a spirit of devotion and loyalty to Ireland's cause is manifested by those who never beheld "the dear old Island, the land of glory and of sorrow, who never dwelt on the charms of her scenery, as fair as the eye of mortal ever rested on, where every hill and valley and stream has its song and its story, its beautiful lakes, romantic with a hundred legends of the characteristics of her people, whose very failings lean towards virtue's side," then cruel oppression and tyrannical laws must ere long give way before the justice and humanity of the liberty loving English democracy.

At half-past twelve, over a hundred students, Scotch, French and Irish, assembled in the large dining hall, which had been most artistically decorated the evening before, and seated themselves around the tables laden with the most sumptuous fare. The thanks of the banqueters are very largely due to Rev. Father Forget for the indefatigable efforts he made to render

the banquet a success. Among the guests present were Rev. Father McGuckin, President of the College, Rev. Father Fox of Winnipeg, Rev. Father Duffy of Ogdensburg, Rev. Fathers Balland, Forget and Jacob, Rev. Brothers Quinn, Smith and Murphy, and Messrs. J. T. Foley, D. V. Phaler, M. F. Fallon, W. F. Kehoe and D. R. McDonald. After justice had been done to the good things, the Chairman, Mr. M. F. Fitzpatrick, after a few brief remarks on "The Day We Celebrate," introduced the first toast on the programme, "Erin's Patron Saint."

Mr. F. L. French responded in an excellent manner, referring to the high esteem in which Irishmen held St. Patrick, and showed that this love and esteem sprung from their gratitude to him for having brought to the Emerald Isle that faith which afforded them relief when reduced to abject poverty, comfort in their darkest moods of melancholy, and consolation when borne down by the oppressor's hand. In conclusion he said that as the bright long-looked for day was about to dawn on the Emerald Isle, the name of its holy patron should continue to be venerated in the hour of prosperity as it had been in the dark days of adversity.

The next toast proposed was "Ireland a Nation," to which Mr. C. J. Kennedy responded in good style. He said, that not a more noble aspiration can arise in the hearts of any people than the desire for the freedom and inalienable right of regulating their own affairs and shaping their own destinies. There is not in the history of the world, another instance of a people, after so long a period of cruel and heartless oppression, still continuing to cling with a fixed determination to the idea of a nationality. After showing how Ireland never willingly submitted to the yoke of oppression, and how her birthright was not taken without a determined struggle, he paid a just tribute to the memory of Emmet, Wolf Tone, and Lord Edward Fitzgerald, whose life-blood was spilt on the altar of their country. In conclusion he said that such unceasing devotion and untiring efforts as Curran, Grattan and O'Connell have lent in the past, and the continued devotion of her many brave sons of the present day, cannot fail to produce the political independence of Ireland.

Mr. H. J. Canning rose in response to