

ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT.

(Written for The Register.)

Probably there is no finer educational institution to be found in the Dominion than that of the Mother House of the Starhood of St. Joseph. Splendidly situated near the Queen's Park, on a slightly rising ground, and surrounded by many acres of recreation grounds, dotted with trees and covered with a soft velvety carpet of greenward, it is upon an all sides to fresh and health-giving breezes, while it is at the same time sufficiently sheltered from cold and heat.

The interior of this lovely temple is most beautiful, and awakens feelings of intense devotion in the beholder. The style of architecture is cruciform, and its chaste simplicity affords an immediate and comprehensive view of the interior. The sanctuary rail is of white marble; at each end stands a small pillar, supporting the figure of a kneeling angel, in Carrara marble. The beautiful silver sanctuary lamp was brought from France. The Lady Chapel and St. Joseph's Chapel form the transept. The moulding around the sanctuary is outlined with arc lights, which can be lighted in a moment; the effect is most beautiful.

The great size of the chapel renders the ceremonies performed in it most impressive. It is undoubtedly the finest convent chapel in Toronto. The lecture hall is on one side of the long corridor, and the music hall immediately opposite. On occasions of state, the two halls and the corridor are thrown into one, thus forming a large and magnificent apartment. Three fine pianos occupy the platform. Beyond the entertainment hall is a spacious music room, into which twenty smaller music rooms open, each containing a piano.

Here also is the Rodality Oratory with its pretty altar and statue of the Blessed Virgin, with the votive lamp burning before it. We drew a number in the spiritual lottery and were admonished to patience and resignation. It was singularly appropriate. Anybody who has experienced the blessing of having beginners practising on the piano for several hours every day, on each side of the house and across the way, will appreciate the wisdom of shutting each dammed up in an apartment just large enough for the piano and herself, whence possible heartrending discords emerge in a sufficiently muffled state. But all things have a beginning, there is no royal road to learning; before perfection comes hard study. The results which St. Joseph's can show in music are most excellent. Miss Gray, St. Joseph's premier music pupil, and a splendid performer, was the only candidate at Toronto University who passed her second year without a failure and scored a decided victory for herself and her Alma Mater. There are many other young performers who give promise of attaining considerable excellence at no very distant date. Leaving the music room we ascend a wide flight of stairs to the dormitories, spacious and lofty apartments. That assigned to the young lady pupils is fitted with alcoves closed by curtains, thus securing complete privacy at a merely nominal charge of \$5 per year. Each bed in the general sleeping room is surrounded by curtains of white dimity so that

each individual pupil is sufficiently private, while all are under the supervision of the sister in charge. Glancing into the neatly kept alcoves, we observed many evidences of good taste in the arrangement of their belongings on the part of the occupants. Photos of Monsignor Morry Del Val were especially conspicuous, His Excellency having completely won the hearts of the susceptible maidens at St. Joseph's. One young lady had most ingeniously looked the door of her apartment by pinning the curtains together, whereupon Sister remarked that there must be some reason for that, and on looking within we beheld a miscellaneous collection of articles where they had no business to be; on the bed. So the curtains were gravely drawn back to show that the brooms of rules had been observed by someone in authority. Very seldom indeed is it that rules are violated; the extreme circumspection of the pupils in this respect being amply shown by a glance at the list of those who have won the "Card of Honor" which is awarded each month for correct deportment.

Still higher we mounted; up stairs worn by the passage of innumerable little feet, some of which have already crossed the valley into the silent land, while many more are treading the pathway of life, made firm and unswerving by the training they received in this admirable institution; up to the bright airy rooms where the small cots of the little ones stand row upon row, spotless and neat, as the little occupants left them in the morning, for all, even the tiny ones, make their own beds, and are otherwise trained in habits of neatness and order. We are up nearly to the tops of the trees, and a beautiful view is to be obtained from the windows. There is no noise from the city, though it is not very far away, the Yonge St. cars being within one block of the convent gates.

We next visit the workroom, where some most exquisite specimens of fancy work are in various stages of manufacture; one piece in particular, a design of birds worked on a transparent foundation, being beautifully natural and most perfect in detail. The work of the sister who has charge of this department of the academy, and who embroiders all the vestments, etc., is in the highest style of ecclesiastical art embroidery; it is an education in itself to see the lovely productions of her needle. Plain needlework is taught as a matter of course, and the wonderfully fine patches and darning made by the young needle-women give evidence to proficiency in this most useful and indispensable but in many schools and colleges too much neglected art.

The studio next engages our attention; it is a work here, especially in the department of china painting and decoration, is worthy of the highest praise; the many beautiful works of art are sure to awaken a love of this fascinating pursuit in the minds of the young pupils. The science room is full, equipped with all necessary apparatus for chemical research, etc.

With regard to the general work of the Academy, it is fourfold. First—The same as collegiate institutions and high schools. The Educational Department sends its examinees here.

Second—Conservatory work in music; the highest honor is the degree of B. M. of Toronto University.

Third—Commercial work: the pupils write for university exams. Fourth—Art: St. Joseph's is affiliated to the Toronto School of Art, which sends up its examinees. This year (1897), St. Joseph's passed 100 per cent. of its pupils in junior leaving examinations; and class teachers' certificates awarded by the Education Department. All but one passed in 3rd class, and all but one commercial certificates.

There is not a single high school or college in the Dominion that can show a better result, or, one might almost say, as good a one, for, taking the number of pupils into account, the number of successful candidates is far more in proportion to that of many colleges having a far larger number of students.

During the scholastic year, St. Joseph's has between 140 and 150 pupils, including boarders and day scholars. It is scarcely too much to say that few Catholics in the city, and still fewer out of it, are aware of the extent and the excellence of the educational system at St. Joseph's. The curriculum is almost perfect in its completeness, embracing as it does every requisite for a thorough and sound education. The terms are most moderate; far cheaper than in colleges. For board, etc., tuition in English, French, German, Latin, elementary drawing, photography and typewriting the terms are \$180 per annum.

It is almost unnecessary to speak of the great and priceless advantages which a convent education always confers, and which are never mentioned in the prospectus; the grace and propriety of deportment, the many small accomplishments, the thought and consideration for others, and the early training in obedience and modesty; these are the things which every Catholic has in his power to confer upon his daughters at less than the price demanded for a more worldly and often useless education in a non-Catholic college.

As for the religious advantages you can weigh them? It is an undoubted fact that we are made or marred in

childhood by the people who surround us. Each one of us throws out an impalpable influence which acts upon everyone with whom we come in contact. The influence of good and holy lives is strong and irresistible, even to a mature mind; how much more so then in the case of the young, whose imaginations are as a clean sheet of paper upon which anyone may write their thoughts?

Catholic parents have enormous responsibilities in this matter. The spirit of indifference is spreading even among Catholics, and only a thoroughly Catholic education will prevent it spreading its insidious roots among the rising generation. Thank God for the religious orders, and more particularly for those whose work is the education of the young. They are destined to be the salvation of the world. Every young, bright and innocent young mind are coming fresh from their teaching, to do battle for God and His Church; their faith is firm and unassailable, because its foundations have been laid deep in the opening soul.

Every year the convent goes throughout the land are opening and sending forth one of the most perfect works of God, a true and pure woman, one who is destined to the highest work in Nature, and who bears upon her the stamp of all that is best and noblest in Catholic womanhood.

LATEST MARKETS.

Toronto, Sept. 29.—On the curb in Chicago at the opening to-day December wheat was quoted at 91½; at the close December wheat was quoted at 90½; puts on December wheat 89½, calls 91½; puts on December corn 29c, calls 29½.

TORONTO MARKETS.

Wheat.—The market is dull and lower, with sales of five cars of red at 78c north of 100 and some sold at 80c and 81c middle freight. A cargo of sprouted 67 lb white was offered at 75c f.o.b. vessel at a Lake Ontario point and 5 lb white sprouted was offered at 80c. Manitoba wheat is easier. New No. 1 hard was quoted at 91½ and for William Oldor shipment or delivery. No. 1 old is quoted at Goderich at \$1 and near 97c.

Flour.—Is dull and about steady at \$4 20 for cars of straight roller.

Milled.—Is quiet at \$11 to \$11 50 for shorts and \$7 to \$7 50 for bran to west.

Barley.—Dull. Feed is quoted at 2½ outside.

Back wheat.—Cars sold only to-day at 35c.

Rye.—Steady and sold at 55c middle freight.

Oats.—Dull at 31c to 32c for yellow west.

Oats.—Steady, with sales of mixed at 22c and white at 23 north and west.

Poss.—Steady, with sales at 47c north and west.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

Butter.—The receipts continue small, the demand is good for all sorts of dairy and prices are firm at 14c to 15c for choice pails, 13c for tubs and 11c to 12c for common and medium.

Eggs.—The supply is not large, there is a good demand and the market is firm at 14c for candled and 15c for strictly fresh grade.

Potatoes.—The offerings are fair, the demand is good and the market is steady. A few sold on the track here to-day at 50c. Potatoes out of store all at 40c to 45c. Poultry.—The receipts to-day were larger, there is a better demand and the market is steady at 40c to 45c for chickens, 40c to 45c for ducks, 40c for geese and 10c for turkeys. Haled Hay.—The market is dull and unchanged. Cuts on the track here are quoted at \$8 to \$8 50.

MARKETS' MARKETS.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity and Price. Includes items like Wheat white, do red, do goose, Barley, Oats, Potatoes, Eggs, Butter, etc.

Receipts were rather light again to-day and prices showed little change. Grapes are the chief commodity on the boards now and they are selling well. Quinces are plentiful this year. We quote—Quinces, per bushel, 40c to 45c. Eggplants, 25c to 35c per basket. Gherkins, per basket, 3c to 5c. Plums per basket, 1c to 3c. Minikmunks, per basket, 10c to 25c; per bushel, 30c to 40c. Apples, 10c to 15c. Watermelons, 10c to 25c each. Tomatoes, 12c to 20c per basket. Cucumbers, 10c to 15c per basket. Lemons, papawick, 30c and 40c. Oranges, 25c to 35c; original packages, \$1 to \$1.25. Bananas—Per bunch, \$1.50 to 2.75; second, \$1 to \$1.25. Egyptian onions, 3c per pound. Peas, green, extra, per pound, 6c to 8c. Lima beans, per pound, 4c. Canadian white, per bushel, 55c. Onions, yellow Danvers and silver skins, 20c to 25c per basket. Peas, 10c to 30c per basket. Apples, per basket, 12c to 15c. Potatoes, per basket, 30c to 40c; per barrel, \$2.75 to \$3. Red peppers, per basket, 25c to 35c. Grapes, Missouri early, Delaware's, Rodgers and Niagara's, 2c to 2½ per lb; Campions, 1½ to 1¾.

A mind, by knowing itself and its own proper powers and virtues, becomes free and independent. It sees its hindrances and obstructions, and finds they are wholly from itself, and from opinions wrongly conceived. The more it conquers in this respect (so it is in the least particular), the more it is its own master, feels its own natural liberty, and congratulates with itself on its own advancement and prosperity.

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When the czar visited Warsaw a street was illuminated for the purpose of destroying him. The plot was discovered.

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HERE'S WHAT YOU ARE TO DO. There are thirty words in this schedule, from each of which letters have been omitted and their places have been supplied by dashes. To fill in the blank spaces and get the names properly you must have some knowledge of geography and history. We want you to send us a list of correct words as you can find them in the twenty or more words in the schedule. We will send you a \$200.00 cash prize. For correct lists we shall give \$200.00 in cash. If more than one person sends a full, correct list, the money will be awarded to the first best list in accordance with the rules. You may send us your list in any form, but it must be in a plain envelope addressed to the Editor of Woman's World, 110 St. Nicholas' St., Toronto. We will send you a \$200.00 cash prize. We expect by this competition of brains to extend the circulation of Woman's World and to give to our readers a chance to win a \$200.00 cash prize. We have a large stock of advertising in our columns. By this plan of increasing the number of subscriptions and receiving more money from advertisers of soap, pianos, medicine, books, baking powder, jewelry, etc., we shall not only give you a \$200.00 cash prize, but we shall also be able to do so. We have decided to operate this most remarkable "missing letters" contest.

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