

DRAMATIC.

A large and distinguished audience filled the Academic Hall on Thursday evening the 20th inst, the occasion of the first public presentation by the students this year. The entertainment, when it is remembered that but two short weeks were devoted to its preparation, was a decided success, amply proving, if further proof were wanting, that it is not rashly that we undertake to "put on" even the heaviest of the productions of the most famous dramatic writers. The opening selection by the College band, was followed by the presentation in French of a Comic Opera, "Tromb-al-ca-zar." Even to those of the audience who did not understand the language, this first part of the programme proved exceedingly interesting, the performance of all who took part in it being of a grade hitherto unsurpassed in the College. Mr. R. Paradis as Beaujolais, and Messrs. Tetreault and Carriere as Vert Panné and Gigolo, brought out the leading points of their roles in a most creditable manner. All three are the possessors of rich and powerful voices, which peculiarly adapt them for taking part in a piece which is mainly of a musical nature. Mr. C. Charbonneau, in the difficult role of Ignace, manifested his thorough acquaintance with the nature of his character, and time and again provoked loud applause by his ludicrous actions.

The important feature of the programme was the Hungarian drama "Tekeli, or the siege of Montgatz" by Theodore Francis Hook. The title role was assumed by Mr. W. S. Woods. This gentleman is possessed of a very dignified and imposing presence. Though slightly built his voice is exceptionally powerful, proportionately rich, and his elocution good. As Tekeli Mr. Woods was natural, from the very moment he laid his plans in the forest, until he congratulated his brave followers after rescuing his father and the stronghold of Montgatz. Conrad the honest miller was taken by Mr. J. P. Smith, and it goes without saying, that few could more fully realize the nature of his role. The words "I am ready to die for the sake of my greatest enemy" were very pathetic, and his honorable action throughout received the approval it merited. R. W. Ivers was an unqualified success in the character of

Bras-de-fer, the weak-minded and weak-hearted soldier. Mr. Ivers has the faculty of pleasing by the very manner of his execution, and though his role was not a heavy one his appearance on the stage was always the signal for continued applause. Alexinus the father of Count Tekelei was sustained in an excellent manner by Mr. M. F. Fitzpatrick, and Wolf the devoted ever-ready and daring companion and adviser of Count Tekeli fell to the lot of S. C. Hallissey, and it could not have been placed in worthier hands. Count Caraffa, the commander in chief of the Austrian forces, found an apt representative in Mr. C. C. Delaney. The conflict between Caraffa and Count Tekelei in the last scene, was exciting in the extreme. The ease and familiarity with stage action, manifested by Mr. T. Donovan, would have been looked for from an experienced actor, but coming from one who was making his *debut*, it was an agreeable surprise. Mr. W. W. Clarke, in the part of Maurice, was perfectly natural, and the high spirit of honor of which he showed himself to be possessor, elicited well-deserved approval from the audience. We feel that our congratulations are fully merited by all who took part in the rendition of "Tekeli." Not the slightest feature was omitted, and we have not lately seen any presentation which was characterized by such general excellence and accuracy of execution. The scenery deserves a more than passing notice. The forest scene, in act first, was the grandest that the curtain ever rose on in the College hall, and was in itself a rare treat to behold. The scene at the mill and the little bridge over the stream whose water turns the large wheel, were exceptionally fine. The presentation on the whole deserves to be remembered as one of the greatest successes in this direction that the students have ever achieved, and adds another testimonial to the excellent training of Dr. Balland.

EXCHANGES.

The Bates *Student* has at last divested itself of the outward mark of its inner lowliness. The new cover is a decided improvement on the old one, but, unfortunately the improvement does not