

THE BISHOP STRACHAN SCHOOL.—The work of the year at this excellent school for girls was brought to a close on the 26th instant. On former occasions the closing exercises were held on one evening, which resulted in the building being rather inconveniently crowded, although a pleasing evidence of the warm interest taken in the school was thus afforded. In order to ensure the comfort of the guests, and at the same time to bring the programme within suitable hours, the Lady Principal issued her invitations for two evenings, so that some 300 guests were present on each night. For Wednesday the 25th the following programme of classical music was admirably rendered:—1. Chorus by the class, (Rossini); 2. Piano solo, "Funeral March" (Chopin); 3. Piano solo, Miss K. Garden; 4. Song, "When the Tide comes in," (Millard) Miss F. Ince; 5. Piano Solo, "Brilliant Fantasia on Irish Melodies," (J. W. Netherwood), Miss M. Inches; 6. Piano Solo, "Scherzo in B Flat Minor," (Chopin), Miss M. Cassels; 7. Song, "Des Etoiles," (Blumenthal), Miss F. Ince; 8. Piano Solo, "Rigoletto," *Paraphrase de Concert*, (Franz Liszt), Miss S. W. Jones; 9. Piano. (16 hands) "Hymn of Praise," (Mendelssohn), the Misses Perry, Robb, Gilbert, Foster, Pirie, Inches, Brock and M. Gale. This was followed, after a brief interval, by a series of tableaux, beautifully arranged, and by a French play which exhibited effectually the thoroughness and purity of style in which the pupils had been instructed under the supervision of Monsieur Pernet. It was entitled "Le Testament de Madame Patural." Madame Patural, a peasant woman, who had married above her station, dies; leaving all her large property, in default of heirs from her own family, to her husband's. Two claimants appear, Madame de Lorieux, a sentimental literary Parisienne, and La Marquise de Rocencoeff, who, though despising their low-born connection, do not hesitate to claim her wealth. The terms of her will are—"that each shall assume a peasant's dress and dance a peasant's dance." Each refuses the conditions with scorn, though intending to comply with them in the absence of the other. Wearing the costumes, they appear, and, after fulfilling all requirements, are informed by the executrix that a relative of Madame Patural's own has been discovered in the person of a little turkey-keeper, God-daughter of Madame Patural's old servant, Gertrude.—Madame Robin, Executrix, Miss L. McVity; Marquise de Rocencoeff, Miss M. Robb; Madame de Lorieux, Miss L. Williams; Jeanneton, the Turkey-keeper, Miss E. Cassels; Gertrude, Miss M. Cassels. Then came a little comedy in English, called "The Serenade," by the Misses Grace Williams and Julia VanKirk.

For Thursday the 26th the following musical programme was performed:—Part 1.—1. Class Chorus, "Hunter's Song," (Kucken.); 2. Piano Solo, "Mon Reve," (P. de Vos Op. 61.) Miss J. VanKirk; 3. "Martha: Fantaisie Brillante, pour deux Pianos, (H. Alberti, Op. 20.) The Misses Williams; 4. "Felice Donzella," Nocturne for three voices, (Bottoldi) the Misses Russell, Booth and Campbell; 5. Piano Solo, "Last Rose of Summer," (Thalberg, Op. 73) Miss G. Cooper; 6. Song, "La Primavera" Valse Aria, (Torry) Miss Russell; 7. Overture, "L'Italiana in Algeri," (Rossini) The Misses McVity, E. Cassels, M. Howland, Beck, McNabb, Orde, Bogert and Campbell; 8. Class Chorus, "Cheerfulness," (Gumbert.)

At the conclusion of the concert the prizes were distributed by the Bishop of Toronto, who is the President of the school. They consisted for the most part of specially bound books, and in part of medals. The following is the Prize List:—*First, or Elementary Class*: General Proficiency, Miss Laura Ireland; Catechism and Religious Instruction, Miss Edith Marling; Scripture History, Miss Blanche Hubertus. Honorable mention for Catechism, Miss Laura Ireland; for Reading, Miss Helen Patton. *Second, or Junior Class*: General Proficiency, Miss Fanny Lyon; English Subjects, Miss Norah Langtry; Catechism and Religious Instruction, Miss Lucy Howard; Scripture History, Miss Norah Langtry. Honorable mention: for Church Catechism, Miss Fanny Lyon; for Scripture History, Miss Fanny Lyon; for English History, Miss Emily Phillips; for Geography, Miss May Smith; for Arithmetic, Miss Violet

Seymour; for Composition, Miss Emily Phillips; for Writing, Miss Mary G. Thompson. *Third, or Lower Intermediate Class*: General Proficiency, Miss Mary Morton; English Subjects, Miss Lila Vankirk; Catechism and Religious Instruction, Miss Lila Vankirk; Scripture History, Miss Harriet Cassels. Honorable mention: for Reading, Miss Ellen O'Reilly; for Scripture History, Miss Emily Stennett. *Fourth or Upper Intermediate Class*: First General Proficiency, (silver cross presented by the Lady Principal) Miss M. Ince; Second General Proficiency, Miss Maria Campbell; English Subjects, Miss Sarah Gilbert; Church Catechism, Miss Emily Williams; Scripture History, Miss Ethel Langtry. *Fifth, or Lower Senior Class*: First General Proficiency, (silver medal, presented by Alex. Manning, Esq.) Miss J. S. Marling; Second General Proficiency, Miss G. A. Cooper; Third General Proficiency, Miss M. Pirie; English Subjects, Miss J. Vankirk; English Composition, Miss M. Robb; Religious Subjects—including Scripture, first, Miss G. A. Cooper; second, Miss M. Pirie; third, Miss J. Vankirk; fourth, Miss E. Bogert; *Sixth or Upper Senior Class*: General Proficiency, first, (gold medal) Miss L. McVity; English Literature, first, Miss M. Cassels; second, Miss E. Cassels; General Proficiency, second, Miss M. Cassels; third, Miss E. Cassels; Religious Subjects, first, (presented by the Lord Bishop of Toronto) Miss E. Cassels; second, Miss M. Cassels. *French*: first class, Miss M. Nightingale and Miss M. Cassels; second class, Miss E. Mackenzie; third class, Miss E. Bogert; fourth, not awarded; fifth, Miss M. Foster. Honorable mention, Miss G. Mercer. *German*: first class, Miss E. Mackenzie; second class, Miss E. Cassels. *Music*: Misses M. Robb, M. Cassels, G. Cooper, E. Jones, M. Inches, (Extra prize, presented by John Carter, Esq.) Honorable Mention: Misses M. Howland, N. Dafeo, S. I. Jones, and M. G. Thompson. *Drawing*: First class—Casts, Miss G. Cooper; Natural Objects, (sketch presented by M. Matthews, Esq.) Miss E. Mackenzie; Flat Copies, first class, Miss M. Pirie; second class, Miss M. Howland.

The Bishop in presenting the prizes said a few words of congratulation to each of the happy recipients; and the distribution having been completed, he expressed his deep satisfaction with the work of the school and the performances of the scholars. Addressing the large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen, he urged upon them the importance of fostering such a school as this, and said that the day was gone by when education of a more partial character was regarded as sufficient for girls than for boys. We must now be prepared to give them the same advantages for intellectual culture as are enjoyed by their brothers and where this has been done, they have proved themselves capable and desirous of fully enjoying such opportunities. But it is not enough that the mind should be stimulated and improved by human knowledge, for while we encourage the utmost thoroughness in such training, it is necessary to provide also that higher and abiding learning which concerns the soul. It is the inestimable value of such a school as this that this beneficent union is effected, and that here the scholars are thoroughly instructed in the principles of the Church of England. He had himself had the opportunity of reading the examination papers in the subjects of his own prize, and which embraced Scripture history, Church history, and the Liturgy in the fifth and sixth classes; and he could say without the slightest exaggeration, and with the experience of several years as an examiner of candidates for Holy Orders, that the answers of many of the pupils would have been regarded as of higher merit than the average work of such candidates, and would have been accepted by him as entirely satisfactory. The efficient character of the work in this department of the school, might be taken as an indication of thoroughness in the other branches, as to which they had reports of the examiners. It was with great pleasure that he congratulated the Lady Principal and her assistants on these excellent results, and it was happy for the church that her members need no longer look to the convents of another communion for the training of their children; for however highly they might estimate what the convent schools have accomplished for education in the past, there

was now no doubt that the preference must be given to our own schools, where our own principles are instilled, and which are now established in nearly every diocese. To the scholars, whose glowing faces showed that here they enjoyed a happy christian home, he wished a pleasant holiday and reunion with their relatives, and exhorted them to remember their school, where they would be warmly welcomed on their return, when he hoped that each would be accompanied by some sister, or cousin or friend, who would be a partaker of the same advantages with themselves. And to those who were now to bid farewell to the school, he would wish holy and happy lives, and that they might always regard themselves as pledged to be servants of their Lord and active workers in His Church.

The second part of this evening's entertainment consisted of recitations of selected English pieces, viz:—1. The Sleep, Miss Marling; 2. The Changed Cross, Miss G. Williams; 3. Dialogue from "As you like it," Misses M. Robb and E. Wise; 4. The Well of St. Keyne, Miss M. Cassels; 5. "The Rhyme Rail," Miss G. Williams. A daily paper gives the following opinion: "These young ladies recited their respective pieces with a purity of style and truth of expression that set speculation busy as to the name of their instructress, but when it transpired that they had been trained by Mrs. Charlotte Morrison, the unusual merit of the recitations was explained." The national anthem terminated the entertainment. Thus was closed one of the most successful years of Wykeham Hall, and we congratulate Miss Grier on her skilful management.

#### HURON.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

GORRIE.—*St. Stephen's Church*.—A most successful Sunday-school picnic under the auspices of the Church came off on the 11th instant, which was one of the most enjoyable affairs that has ever taken place in this village. About 1.30 p.m. the scholars assembled in the Church, with the addition of a few from the Sunday-school of St. James Church, Wroxeter, and that of Trinity Church, Fordwich, who had accepted the invitation to be present. On the arrival of the Incumbent, the Rev. George Racy, a hymn was sung by the school choir and scholars, after which prayer was offered by the incumbent, and after another hymn had been sung, the scholars, numbering 107, were formed into procession by their respective teachers, Mrs. Racey, Miss Croskery, Miss Days, Mr. James Young, Mr. Jas. Perkins, Mr. Jas. Waters, and Mr. Henry Perkins, and walked two and two through the streets of the village headed by the Incumbent and the Superintendent, Captain Kaine.

The place chosen by the Committee of Management was that beautiful spot on the banks of the Maitland River known as Leech's Island, and a more romantic place could not be found around here. The scholars employed their time in swinging and in participating in the various games that were played, and as several boats had been kindly lent for the occasion, they, as well as others, had every opportunity given them of showing what they could do in that line.

Nothing could exceed the way in which the Rev. Mr. Racey tried to make this picnic pass off successfully, and the very active part which Mrs. Racey took to make the children enjoy themselves was a perfect treat to look at.

On the ground several hundred persons had assembled, not only from the village but also from Fordwich and Wroxeter, and the scholars, whose number had increased to 200, after having enjoyed themselves to their heart's content, were all placed in order, and grace having been said, they were seated on the ground and were treated to a most bountiful supply of refreshments which had been furnished by the ladies of the congregation, after which they all amused themselves till about 8 o'clock, when all went home well pleased with the afternoon's enjoyment.

—This seems to me a great truth, in my exile, or chaos whatsoever, that sorrow was not given us for sorrow's sake, but always, and infallibly, as a lesson to us, from which we are to learn somewhat, and which, the somewhat once learned, ceases to be sorrow.