

Vast the country over which extends thy Lordship's reign,
From Atlantic to Pacific stretches the wide domain,
For heart and brain scope giving to work such mighty good,
And stamp thy name in deathless fame, in city, field and flood,

For thee, my Lady, boundless the power thou wilt wield
O'er minds and heart of thine own sex, surely a noble field !
Them, thou wilt teach by word and deed to do as thou dost do,
And to the pure, high instincts of womanhood be true.

Deep is our prayer and earnest that whilst with us ye stay,
The time may prove as pleasant as a long mid-summer day,
No cloud of factious discord e'er mar its golden flight,
Nor brooding public sorrow change sunshine into night.

And tho' wild storms may riot through winter's long, bleak reign,
Tho' lakes, streams, mighty rivers, be bound in icy chain,
Tho' snow-drifts heap the landscape with forms fantastic, strange,
You'll find our hearts true, loyal, will know no chill, nor change. :

Miss Mullarky next stepped down from the stage and presented the Countess with an exquisite bouquet.

The second part of the exercises consisted of an

ALLEGORICAL REPRESENTATION

in which Anglia, with her pink-favors; Caledonia with her plaid scarf; Erin with her green emblems, and Canada with her snowy robes, vied with each other in celebrating the praises of the noble visitors. The history of the house of Dufferin and Clandeboyne was delicately introduced in this polylogue, the parts of which were sustained, by Milles Mansoletti, Macdonald, E. Murphy, De Salaberry, Barsalou, Beaudry, J. Murphy, Malin and C. Pouliot. Another Bouquet was then presented to Her Excellency by Mlle P. Jodoin.

The following is a translation of an address in French which was then read to

HER EXCELLENCY.

To Her Excellency Madame La Comtesse de Dufferin :

Madam,—It is with a pleasure, equalled only by our admiration of your eminent qualities, that we behold you in our midst. It is said that "extremes meet." This truth is exemplified to day. On one hand, nobility of birth, dignity of manners and the brilliancy of talent forming a triple crown upon your brow and constituting you, as the representative of our well-beloved Sovereign, the first lady in the land; on the other, humble children, in the springtime of life, at the vestibule of science, who know of nothing sweeter than to romp and play within the Convent, or spend the long vacation in the company of their good mothers at home, and who believe that they dream when they see before them a great lady, the noble spouse of our Governor. These, Madam, are the extremes which touch each other, to-day, within these halls. Time, jealous of our enjoyment, will soon separate them, but it will respect the remembrance of your amiable visit and the name of Lady Dufferin, will be always cherished in this house. May happiness always attend you, and may your stay in Canada be agreeable enough to make you forget the severity of our climate. Such is, Madam, the wish formed at the commencement of the New Year, for yourself and Lord Dufferin, by the pupils of the Congregation de Notre Dame de Ville-Marie.

Two great golden harps, whose wires were pinched by the nimble fingers of Misses Mullarky, of Montreal, and Baretti, of Boston then played "The Meeting of the Waters," to perfection. The last performance of the young ladies was the gem of the afternoon—a musical medley, entitled "Messagers Ailés." There were solos, duetts, choruses and echo songs. At the words of the recitative "Entendez-vous?" the chirp of invisible canaries was heard, followed, a little later, by that of the cuckoo and when to the warblings of these birds was joined the ringing voices of the girls, the whole stage, transformed into an

enchanted forest, seemed to float in melody, as in the days of Oberon.

After this pleasing exercise, His Excellency read the following reply in French. We append a translation.

Ladies,—It is with the greatest pleasure that Her Excellency and myself at last find ourselves admitted to the Halls of this Community, and most heartily do we thank you for the kind welcome with which you have greeted us. Charged as you are with the responsibilities of educating so large a proportion of Canada's most important, most populous, and most influential city, those who appreciate the enormous importance of the women of a country being properly educated, cannot fail to sympathize with your efforts. That young and lovely band of children which now surrounds us, smiling in their virginal beauty like a parterre of spring flowers, will in a few years hence be disseminated amid the homes of the city, and will be called upon by their example, by their counsels and by the hold they possess over the affections of their relatives to exemplify and practise those noble principles of conduct which have been instilled into them here,—and what influence in the world is more powerful for good upon everyone who comes into contact with her, than that of a high-minded, affectionate, sensible woman? Already it has been my good fortune to make the acquaintance of many of those who, once pupils in this establishment, have now become bright and charming ornaments of the society of Montreal; and I am sure it will gratify the hearts of the good Sisters to know that many and many a one of these ladies have referred to the period of their sojourn here with the greatest gratitude and the most tender reminiscences. With such unmistakable evidences of the benefits you are conferring upon the population that surround you, you may rely upon my continuing those traditions which were inaugurated by my predecessor, Lord Elgin, (whose example in everything I am most desirous of following,) and extending to your establishment my best wishes and constant solicitude. As Governor-General of Canada, I am, indeed, proud to think that within every Convent of the land the principles of loyalty to the Throne and of affection to the person of Her Majesty are faithfully inculcated, and on this account, as well as on every other, I trust that the sphere of your ministrations may be continually enlarged. It is true, as you remark, the outward forms of society and even the physical features of your own immediate neighbourhood are undergoing rapid changes. Within the last few years a scattered collection of dependent colonies have been welded into a great nation, while the wealth and population of the neighbouring city is invading the quiet fields which surround your establishment, but undisturbed by these circumstances and obedient to the traditions and the discipline of your great Foundress and predecessors, you continue the even tenor of your way, dispensing light, intelligence and instruction, and bearing witness, by the saintliness of your lives and your beneficence, of the illustrations of those eternal truths which, amid the changes and chances of earthly existence, remain as the only safe guides and landmarks by which we can direct our course in the vicissitudes of life.

To the great delight of everybody present, Lady Dufferin next arose, and in the purest of accents, read the following reply to the young ladies :

My Young Friends,—I find it difficult to thank you sufficiently for the warm and flattering welcome you have given me to day. In every part of Canada where I have been I have heard this Convent spoken of with respect and admiration, and I have, therefore, looked forward to my visit to Villa-Maria with the greatest impatience. I can well believe with what affection you,