LOBETTO CONVENT, NIAGARA FALLS.

Decidedly these monks and nuns have exquisite taste. And this is true not only of monks and nuns of the middle ages, who while civilizing the Barbarians of Europe, and changing the face of the country, always knew how to select the most bewitching nooks and the most commanding heights for their gorgeous monasteries and convents; but it is equally true of the religious communities of this century. Already have the most glorious spots of America fallen peaceful victims to their taste. Those wonderful monasteries of Italy, the Certosa of Pavia, Monte Cassino, the Superga of Turin, Assisi and others; the glorious piles of architecture along the Danube, the beautiful convents of the Rhine, including the gem imbedded in the Rhine, the island of Nonnenwerth—the wild, romantic surgem imbedded in the Rhine, the island of Nonnenwerth—the wild, romantic surrounding of the Charteuse and La Trappe, in France, which only lately was visited by the Queen—the monasteries of Spain, of old England and Ireland, alas in ruins now; all these thousands of monumental proofs of the refining and ennobling influence of religion have found their worthy successors in America.

There is no spot more beautiful, more sublime in our country than that wonder of nature, Niagara Falls. Archbishop Lynch of Toronto, heir to the glorious traditions of the middle ages, and with a true Catholic love of all that is beautiful true Catholic love of all that is beautiful in God's works, made it one of his first duties to initate the example of former times, and to have erected at this marvellous spot religious institutions, which would not be inferior to the great nurseries of learning, so numerous in the Catholic Church. Giants of intellect came forth lic Church. Giants of intellect came forth from the monasteries of old. Queens and dames of noble birth, remarkable for their graceful beauty and intellectual strength, sung by troubadours and served by chivalry, living in song and imagortal in history, were trained in the convent schools of old. Our young ladies, not any less noble or less deserving, in this free land of ours, should have the same advantages. Ladies, true ladies, alike remarkable for their learning as for their uncommon virtues, should take charge of this institution, and thus it came about that Loretto Academy was bult, and under the maragement of was built, and under the mar agement of the ladies of Loretto, soon realized the hopes of His Grace, and probably even

surpassed them.

The superb, massive building, the spacious halls and corridors, the well-heated and well-ventilated rooms, the extreme neatness, order and cleantiness visible throughout, stamp it at once the fit abode of refined ladies, who know that visible throughout, stamp it at once the fit abode of refined ladies, who know that physical health and strength are necessary to a sane and thorough education. The looks of the young ladies betray the pleasing fact that they thrive under such healthy influences. Blooming health, a natural flow of youthful spirits, and bright countenances are the result attained. Amid such surroundings by nature and art, it is no wonder that their minds are enlarged and their hearts ennobled by their mere dwelling in such a place. The young lady at her easel in the studio, needs but to cast a look through the large windows, and she has before her the most wonderful picture from the hand of God Himself. The vivid green and blue of the breaking waters as they dash over the precipice, the dezzling white spray, the fresh greens of foliage, on the banks, and over all, the gorgeous colors of the perpetual rainbow, fill her senses with harmonies of color and light which no master could teach as well. The young lady at her piano, or violin, or harp, as she rests for a moment from her study hears the wonderful music of the thundering waters, that eternal dominant chord (according to clever observation of a writer. ing waters, that eternal dominant chord (according to clever observation of a writer in the Century magazine) which fills her bosom with unutterable longings for a fulfilment, a complement, a so'ution which only eternity can afford. Pupils

ry

in the Century magestape) which fills her bosom with uniterable longings for a fulfiment, a complement, a solution which with uniterable longings for a fulfiment, a complement, a solution which with a divastages must certainly be streptional. And such we have found that the complement of the complement of the content of the content of the college of our Lady of the Angel Rev. F. Language of the college of our Lady of the Angel Rev. F. Language Rev. F. Sullivan of Thorold, R. F. Castaldi of Albidon, N. Y., Rev. F. Lofts and in the property of the college of our Lady of the Angel Rev. F. Language Rev. F. Sullivan of Thorold, R. F. Castaldi of Albidon, N. Y., Rev. F. Lofts of Erocklyn, Rev. F. E. J., Whitley, O. C. C. F. A. J. Kreld, O. C. C. and some other clergymen.

All the guests, as they arrived were most cordially received by the Lady Superior and the other ladles, and show into the spacious reception-reoms, converted for the occasion into a gallery of art. Beautiful oil paintings and studies in water colors and pastel, were dispassed on easels; the walls were covered with most exquisite specimens of fancy work where all was excellent, was a dimirable, or to notice the excellences or work, where all was excellent was a impossibility. Among the oil paintings we noticed more particularly a fruit printing on chimal cash and only the college of the particularly a fruit printing. There was a temposibility. Among the oil paintings we noticed more particularly a fruit printing on chimal cash and all the college of the particularly a fruit printing. There was a constant the particularly a fruit printing on chimal cash and all the college of the particularly a fruit printing on the college of the particularly a fruit printing on the particularly a fruit printing of the particularly a fruit printing

many visitors.

As it is one of the rules of the establishment that every pupil must do a piece of plain sewing, even before she does any fancy work, there was quite a display of Domino of classic style and execution,

most excellent work of this kind. Misses
Mary Messner, Ruby and Gertie Hawkins,
Kate Bradley, Sadie Kittel, Agnes Bunyan, Sarah Fremaine and Clara Wallace
were the young ladies whose work was
most admired; also some pieces of hammered brass by Misses May Flynn, M.
Mattison and L. Maldoon.

After having feasted their eyes on all
this wonderful array of beauties, wrought
by pencil, brush and needle the visitors
were shown into the hall prepared for the
commencement exercises. The stage was

were shown into the hall prepared for the commencement exercises. The stage was decorated with living green and brilliant flowers; festoons of trailing plants were strung over window and column and the hall was soon filled by the admiring throng of guests His Grace the Archbishop of Toronto, taking the seat of honor, the exercises began by an overture the "Cheval de Brozza," by Auber, executed with the utmost precision and faultless manner by Misses Higgins, Dougherty, M. McKerna, Baker, McCreary, M. Huriey, L. McCreary and N. McKemna.

Then came a selection from "Mors et

Baker, McCreary, M. Huriey, L. McCreary and N. Mekemna.

Then came a selection from "Mors et Vits," the wonderful "Oratorio" of Gounod. The "Morceau" chosen "Beati qui lavant," is a chorus for fire female voices, and one of the brightest gems in the oration. It is the song of the blessed after the judgment and requires a rendering which could hardly be looked for outside of the professional world; and those young ladies showed by their wonderful interpretation of this gem that they had the true union of taste and feeling, which makes music the language of the heart.

The "Polonaise in A," by Chopin, which followed next, was played by Musses McKenna, Higgins, Dougherty and McCreary, and showed the wonderful exactness and precision which enabled them to play this powerful composition in unison.

Miss M. Higgins charmed the audience by her brilliant variations on "Home Sweet Home," executed upon the harp. Her sister Miss A. Higgins, then sang the "Ave Maria" by Campana in a most expressive mauner.

The French conversation, which fol-

"Ave Maria" by Campana in a most expressive manner.

The French conversation, which followed between Misses Viola Leland, M. Higgins, Doherty and R. Loughrea, proved again that no one nows how to be French in manners and language so well as the American. No wonder the French are

american. No wonder the French are fond of us. After a chorus by Bishop, followed that sparkling bit from Sylvia by Delibes, called "Pizzicati," dashingly performed by Missee Muldoon, L. McCresry, M. Walsh, A. Bunyan, F. McDonald, M. Lougbrey, L. Cronin and N. McKenna. The German dialogue between Miss McCreary and Miss Loughrey, must have been a revelation to the Germans present, for the names of the young ladies certainly could not lead any one to suppose a German tongue with genuine German intonation and accent. "Oft in the Stilly Night," was touchingly sung as a duet by Misses Chilton and Higgins.

Miss L. Muldoon gave us some beautiful Irish airs, the "Last Rose of Summer and the Ministrel Boy," on the harp. After a Hungarian March performed by Misses

ful Irish airs, the "Last Rose of Summer and the Ministrel Boy," on the harp. After a Hungarian March performed by Misses Baker, Cahill, Grattan, Mesener, Preston, Harold, O'Flaherty, F. B. McDonald and M. Higgins, then came the grand vocal quartette, "Spanish Gipsey," by Lassen, sung by Misses McCreary, Chilton, McKenns and A. Higgins. The wind music of this song, the strange rhythm and the minor cadence of the whole make this a most impressive and gypay like piece, taxing the vocal powers and splendid training of the singers to their utmost, no other music could have better displayed all this remarkable talent of the young vocalists. Miss M. Higgins then gave the charmed audience an exquisite recitation of a poem, "Unseen yet Seen," by Elanor C. Donnelly, our gifted American poetess. This young lady displayed uncommon ability, her jelocution and delivery displaying decided genius every time.

A bright chorus "Cheerfulness by Gumbert," sung by all the pupils, followed, the most taking bit on the programme. Then came Valse for 12 pianists, five violinists and the programme.

which closed this remarkable commencewhich closed this remarkable commencement of Loretto Academy. His Grace remarked that he had never before witnessed such a display of all that can render young ladies attractive. Talent, grace, simplicity, modesty in garb and mien, extraordinary virtue and perfect harmony between pupils and teachers, are certainly all that we can desire for our cirls.

A. M. D. G.

A. M. D. G.

Gold cross for Christian doctrine, donated by His Grace, the Archbishop of Toronto, obtained by Miss McDermott, Niagara Falls, N. Y.

5 o'clock silver tea set, donated by His Lordship, Bishop Carberry, O. P., awarded for English composition and obtained by Miss Cahiil, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Gold medal for mathematics, donated by Mr. Cahill of Brooklyn and obtained by Miss Baker, Kingston, Canada.

Gold medai as first prize in instrumental music, donated by a friend of the Institu-

music, donated by a friend of the Institu-tion and obtained by Miss McKenna, Brooklyn, N. Y. tion and obtained by Miss McKenna, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Gold medal for oil painting, donated by Mr. W. Wise of Brooklyn, merited by the Misses McCreary and Matteson, and obtained by Miss Matteson, Buffalo, N. Y.
Institution gold medal, awarded as first prize in first English class, and obtained by Miss Higgins, Brooklyn, N. Y.
Gold medal a varded as first prize in third English class, donated by a friend of the institution, and obtained by Miss Dougherty, New Orleans, La.
Gold medal for classity in conversation, equally merited by the Misses Harold, Bradley, Hurley, Kyle, Hawkins, Wise, Preston, Loughrey, Duffy. Flynn, G. Hawkins and obtained by Miss Hawkins, Cornwall, N. Y.
Medal for fedelity to days, deasted by

Cornwall, N. Y.

Medal f.r fidelity to duty, donated by a friend of the institution and obtained by Miss Harold, Lewiston, N. Y. Medal for amiability obtained by Miss Wise, Brooklyn, N. Y. Medal for ladylike deportment, obtained

Medal for ladylike deportment, obtained by Miss Chilton, Goderich, Canada. Medal for ordez, obtained by Miss Bradley, Williamsport, Penn.

Medal for drawing, donated by a friend of the institution and obtained by Miss L'zzie McCreary, Erie, Penn.

Gold thimble for plain sewing, merited by the Misses Hawkins, Fargo, Tremaine, Bunyan, Wallace, Bradley, Kittle, Messner, G. Hawkins and obtained by Miss Messner, Formosa, Canada.

Special prize for theory of music, awarded to Miss Higgins, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Special prize for vocal music, awarded

Special prize for vocal music, awarded to Miss Chilton, Goderich, Canada. Crowned for good conduct, the Misses

Higgins, Chilton, Herold, McKenna, Baker, Bradley, Cabill, Hawkins, Grattan, Loughrey, McDermott, Kyle, Preston, Fargo, Muldoon, Flynn, G. Hawkins, Loretto Duffy, L. Walsh and M. Hurley. Crowned for good conduct in junior department, Misses Una Ford and Cora Lyon, New York City.

Crowned for lady like deportment in junior department, Miss Maggie Talbott,

Suspension Bridge, N. Y.

Prize of Christian doctrine, junior
department, merited by Muss M. Bampfield, Clifton, Oat., and Muss Una Ford,
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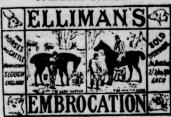
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