The Initial Performance of the New Irish Military Drama by 6t Ann's Young Men a Great Buccess.

It is no exaggeration to state that there could not be found anywhere a more enthusiastic audience on St. Patrick's night than that which gathered in St. Ann's Hall to witness the first presentation of the patriotic and soul-inspiring drama, "The Siege of Limerick," by the Dramatic Section of St. Ann's Young Men's Society. For some weeks past the event had been the topic of discussion among the Society's numerous friends in St. Ann's Parish, and it was therefore not surprising that the St. Ann's Hall was filled to the doors on St. Patrick's Night as well as at the matinee performance in the afternoon. As the title indicates, the drama deals with one of the most eventful epochs in Irish history, and a series of skilfully and accurately drawn pictures of many of the stirring incidents with which the famous campaign of 1690 abounded are presented.

The plot of the play is as follows: Dermot O'Gorman resolves on joining the Irish forces under Sarsfield, notwithstanding the fierce opposition of his father, who has esponsed the cause of King William, and who has sworn eternal hatred against everything Irish and Catholic, going so far even, in his wrath. as to endeavor to effect the death of his own son. In the second act a blacksmith's forge is disclosed where the manufacture of pikes is briskly carried on. An English spy discovers the place and brings along a number of his fellows, calling upon the patriots to surrender, but by a happy coincidence relief comes just in time, when the tables are turned.
We are afterwards, in the third act, brought to a "Pass" in the mountains, where an interesting dialogue reveals the daring feat which the immortal Sarsfield had in contemplation, and in due course a realistic explosion occurs, thus bringing to the attention of all the effect of the gallant leader's historic charge—"Sarsfield is the word and Sarsfield is the man"-in the destruction of the English siege train. The hero, Dermot O'Gorman, has a close call, his capture having been effected by his father, who leads a band of English soldiers. He is bound and blindfolded and led forth to execution, and the signal about to be given, when timely aid arrives and he is saved. The last act brings us to the "Walls of Limerick," where a bloody and determined struggle for the mastery takes place between the English and the Irish. resulting, as history records, in a decisive victory for the latter.

The hero, Dermot O'Gorman, who had

been wounded in a previous engagement with the enemy, was unable to participate in this last struggle, but his father, who, by an extraordinary intervention of Divine Providence, had become re-conciled to his son, had been converted to the patriots' side and valuantly took Dermot's place, and through his heroic efforts was the means of winning the day at the fight on the bridge, which assured the ensuing victory for Ireland. The play is intensely dramatic throughout the whole four acts, but it must not be imagined that there is no humorous side to it; on the contrary, there is a strong vein of light comedy running through it, and the audience was agreeably diverted with the wit and humor of Micky Cassidy, Tim Brannigan and other lighthearted Irish lads. A number of patriotic Irish songs and choruses are judicially introduced, as well as Irish jigs and reels

The author of the drama, Mr. James Martin (who is a member of the Society) deserves the heartiest congratulations on his latest contribution to Irish National literature, and Irish Canadians should feel proud of having such a talented and successful dramatic author in their midst. He has written several in that capacity, but as the gentleman to other Irish dramas, all of which have been most favorably received, and it is a pleasure to us to be able to state that there is not a line in one of them that will bring the blush of shame to any Irishman's cheek—they are all refined, elevating, national, and free from the deast suggestion of caricature or burlesque of the Irish character, which, alas, cannot be said of most of the plays bearing Irish names that are produced on the stage at the present day!

As was to have been expected from such a capable body as the dramatic section of the St. Ann's Young Men, the various characters in the play were admirably portrayed, but, without doing injustice to the others in the cast, special mention should be made of Mr. T F. Sullivan, whose impersonation of the hero, Dermot O'Gorman, could not be surpassed; Mr. R. J. Byrne, as Harry Nugent, was good; Mr. Ed. Quinn made an ideal Sarsfield; Messrs. John Morgan and Morgan J Quinn, as Micky Cassidy and Tim Bran nigan respectively, were evidently most popular with the audience, judging by the roars of laughter and applause which greeted them; Mr. M. Kavanagh's presentation of the Frenchman in Ireland, Beaujarques, was very clever, and the hot water into which he got himself so frequently in trying to conciliate all parties was very amusing; Mr. H. P. Sullivan as the English Col. Breckenridge, acquit ted himself well; and Mr. T. M. Jones, as Sergeant Blakely, and Mr. M. Doheny, as Corporal Dingley, performed the parts assigned to them in a creditable manner. Mr. John Quinn, as Barney O'Reilly, the blacksmith, proved himself to be quite an expert in the art of pikemaking.

The scenery, costum is and stage setting were most appropriate, Mr. J. J. Bowan, the Society's scenic artist, being especially successful in his painting of the scene representing "The Walls of Limerick." The stage manager, Mr. T. M. Jones, the stage carpenter, Mr. W. J. Furlong, and M. M. J. O'Donnell, who looked after the properties, are to be complimented on the fact that not a single hitch was noticeable throughout the whole performance.

The Society's popular musical director, Mr P. J. Shea, provided a first-class orchestra, who discoursed several choice selections of Irish airs between the acts. The music incidental to the p'ay was ar- 1 Orchestra......Selected

ranged by Mr. Shea, who also composed the music to which the songs were sung. The following was the cast of characters:

Dermot O'Gorman-An Irish Patriot..... Mr. T. F. Sullivan. Roger O'Gorman—Dermot's Father......
Mr. J. J. O'Rourke.

Harry Nugent-Dermot's Friend .. Mr. R. J. Byrne. Patrick Sarsfield-Earl of Lucan. Mr. Ed. Quinn. Colonel O'Grady, Officers of the Irish

Sergeant O'Hagan, Corporal Hogan, army.
Mr. T. P. Conway, Mr. M. Doyle, Mr. Fred. Manley.

Thady O'Leary, ! Irish Gunners...... Larry Mulligan, Mr. P. Driscoli, Mr. L. McCarthy.

Micky Cassidy—A lively Irish Boy..... Mr. J. Morgan. Tim Brannigan—His Faithful Friend... Mr. Morgan J. Quinn.
Barney O'Reilly—A Blacksmith....
Mr. J. Quinn.

Dan O'Rafferty—His Assistant.
Mr. A. Jones Considine—An Irish Car Man..... Mr. J. Shanahan.

Rory McGuire An Irish Sentinel Mr. P. Burns. Beaujacques-A "Brave" Domestic Mr. M. Kavanagh.

Colonel Breckenridge—A Loyal Soldier

Sergeant Blakely, In the King's army Corporal Dingley, Mr. T. M. Jones, Mr. M. Doheny. Sir Arthur Plimsoll-English Am-

Mr. C. Conway.

Irish Soldiers, English Soldiers, Peas-

ante, etc. We understand that the Society, with its usual generosity, intends to repeat the performance in Easter week, for the

benefit of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, in aid of the poor of St. Ann's parish, when we trust another bumper house will greet the St. Ann's Young Men there being a two-fold incentive for such a desirable result, viz., the laudable object for which the entertainment is given, and the intrinsic merit of both the play and the performers. An interesting and pleasing incident occurred after the close of the third act. Hon. Mr. Justice Curran ascended the stage, his appearance being the signal

for a loud burst of applause, showing that he continues to hold a warm corner in the affections of his fellow-country. men in old St. Ann's. After referring to the grand success which had attended the celebration of the National Festival in Montreal that day, and the magnificent manner in which the St. Aun's Young Men had brought it to a close that evening in the rare treat which their Dramatic Section had afforded them, Judge Curran stated that he had been requested by the President of the Society to perform a duty on behalf of its officers and members, which was to him a source of infinite pleasure. The curtain was then raised and Mr. James Martin, the author of the play, was requested to step for ward, when in a short but eloquent speech Judge Curran presented him, on behalf of the Society, with a handsome gold watch, as a slight token of the esteem in which he is held, and of their appreciation of his many valuable services, expressing the hope that he might live long to wear it. The popular judge closed by adding his own personal tribute to the worthy recipient. It was evident to all that Mr. Martin had been taken completely by surprise, so much so that it was with difficulty he found words to express his thanks, notwithstanding his natural fluency and eloquence He managed eventually, h wever, to make a nice little speech and retired amid applause. It was noticed that when Mr. Martin was called the front that it was "Major G'Gorman' that came forward, dressed in all the splendor of a British officer, which was another surprise

At Bourget College.

to the audience, as Mr. Martin's

name did not appear on the programme

whom was assigned that part had been,

almost at the last moment, unavoidably

prevented from assuming it, Mr. Martin,

by special request, stepped in and filled

the gap, and the manner in which he ac-

quitted himself in this very difficult role

showed that besides being a brilliant

dramatic writer he was a clever actor as

At Bourget College, Rigaud, P.Q., the usual celebration of St. Patrick's Day was held by the presentation of a drama entitled "The Black Prince," which was interspersed at intervals with recitations and instrumental and vocal music. The following is the programme, which was carried out in an able manner by all the performers:

Edmond-The Blind Boy..... Mr. C. Thivierge. Prince Rodolph-The Presumptive Heir to the Throne..... Mr. C. McKay. Oberto--A Farmer..... Mr. J. Leehy. Elvino-Son of Oberto..... Mr. M. Gorman. Starow-A Villainous Confidant of Prince Rodolph..... Mr. M. Decaire. Kalig-A Reduced Gentleman. Mr. L. Lapointe. High Priest—Bishop of Warsaw... Mr. H. Murphy. Lida—Duchess of Lithuania...... Mr. P. Deguire. Frank. Servants of Oberto..... Raymond,

Mr. E. Murray, Mr. W. McGreevy. Guards, Attendants, etc. INTERLUDES.

The Genius and Character of the Irish People Mr. T. Farrell. Orchestra.....Selected Sold—The Holy City......Adams Mr. P. Deguire. Mcore and His Irish Melodies..... Mr. M. Gorman.

Solo-A Handful of Earth......Murphy

Mr. J. Leeby.

At St. Anthony's Parish.

The parishioners of the thriving and prosperous parish of the West End, St. Anthony's, upheld their reputation this year by the measure of enthusiasm they displayed in assisting at the splendid entertainment prepared for them by the members of the Young Men's Society of the parish. It was held in the spacious basement of the church, and when Mr. McGee, the talented young presiding officer of the organization, arose to deliver his speech of welcome he was greeted by applause from a well-filled hall.

The following programme was skilfully carried out, each performer being warmly applauded and encored.

The St. Anthony's Young Men's Society have every reason to feel proud of the manner in which they honored the day.

PART I. Opening Remarks by the President,

Mr. W. J. McGee. 1—Piano Solo.....

Miss Donovan. 2-Song and Dance..... Mr. and Miss Allen. 3-Mandolin and Zithar Duett

Messra. Kollmar. 4—Irish Jig in Costume...... Messrs. Mines.

5-Song.....Rory Darlin' Mrs. Walter H. Perriton (of Toronto.) 6-Song.....The Day is Done Mr. Duquette. 7—Song......(Character)

Miss Tootsie Durant. 8-Song......Twilight
The Harmony Male Quartette Messrs. Duquette, Venables, Hodgson

and Stewart.)

PART II.

2-Song......Descriptive.

4—Song and Dance.....(Irish).
Miss Tootsie Durant.

Mr. Duquette.
The Kerry Dance.
Mrs. W. H. Perriton. -Song....." In Absence."
Harmony Male Quartette.

-Song......Sweet Kildare Miss Marie Hollinshead. Miss Donovan, the talented organist of St. Anthony's Church, was also accompanist, and it is needless to add that she acquitted herself in an able manner.

St. Mary's College.

The members of St. Patrick's Society, of St. Mary's College had their usual St. Patrick's day entertainment in the Academie Hall last evening. The entertainment was most successful and the large audience present was highly pleased. The programme presented fol-

Prof Ed. Clark. Sleight of Hand.....

Mr. F. J. Bernier. Mandolin Solo.....

Prof. A. C. Lachance. Song...... "Killarney" Mr. A. I. Rice.

Recitation..." Une lecon d'Orthographe" Masters J. Matte and A. Raymond. present in the Sanctuary. Sword Feats..... Serg. Hawker.

."Then you'll remember me" Mr. Raoul Masson. Recitation......"David's Lament"
Mr. J. Meagher.

Prof. Ed. Clark.

ALONG THE ROUTE,

ాడ్ కులోకి కొండా తాత్తాన్ని రాజ్యా కంటి కొత్తారు. అక్కడా కాటకు కాటికి కాట్లు కాటు చెప్పుడు. మృత్తున్నారు. ఈ పట్టికు

belief put a festive air upon their dwellpicturesque and harmonious line of pas-

tions, emblematic of the day, that lined the entire route.

greens turreted and cross crowned offered posing structure of evergreens expressed

The residence of the Grand Marshal, Alderman Kinsella, on St. Antoine street, was profusely and tastefully draped with Irish flags and banners and line on line of bright streamers and bunting were carried over the street and waved their salutation to the heats below.

jaunting car received their due share of admiration, and the little boys from St. Patrick's Orphanage, in their comfortable gray suits and red tuques, were an

mensely.

Rev. Father O'Meara rode in a carriage behind a quartette of high-spirited animals. St. Gabriel's parish is always enthusiastic.

the front rank.

stone of St. Patrick's more than 50 years ago, assisted at the ceremonies to-day. The venerable Father O'Connell,

Immediately after the conclusion of the Mass the visiting bishops and priests were entertained to a dinner in St. Patrick's Hall. The Very Rev. Father Colin, Superior of the Seminary of St.

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Almost every house along the line of march displayed its token of patriotism or sympathy—an Irish flag or a bit of green bunting—as a tribute of honor and respect to the procession that passed their doors. Not only the residents native to the soil of Erin, or of Irish extraction, but those of other origin and ings by decorating them in a manner be-1765 to 1783 Notre Dame Street, fitting the occasion, and the result was a

Long streamers of various hues, but green predominant, and bright flags and nanners, fluttered a caed mille failthe to the marching ranks, and the portraits of men eminent in the history of their faith and nation were conspicuous among the numerous devices and decora-

At St. Gabriel's Church an arch of everits incense of resinous odors to the sons of St. Patrick as they passed beneath its green houghs and again at St. Ann's Church, on McCord street, another imthe patriotism of the parish and its honor for the great festival day.

The Hibernian Knights won golden opinions from the onlookers as they marched steadily past in a compact body like well-drilled soldiers, and at several points in the line of march they were enthusiastically applauded. This spontaneous outburst of gratification was also offered the young St. Louis cadets, who in their neat and bright uniforms made a very creditable and attractive addition to the parade.

St. Ann's Young men and their Irish

interesting group. St. Mary's "Home Rulers" are a promising lot of bright faced boys and they seemed to enjoy the day im-

The Young Irishmen's L & B. A. made a splendid showing, under President W.J. Huphy, who is, by the way, one of the veteran members of the organization.

Rev. Father P. Shelfault, pastor, and Rev. Father Strubbe, of St. Ann's, occupied a carriage of bonor, and the latter was as enthusiastic as usual in his efforts to place the stalwarts of St. Ann's in

NOTES.

The order maintained at St. Patrick's Church during the Mass was excellent, under the able direction of Marshal James Milloy, of St. Patrick's T.A. & B. Society, and his 23 trained assistants. Stephen Kerrigan, a stonemason who did the mechanical work in connection with the laying of the principal corner

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