

THE Y. I. L. & B. CONCERT.

A MAGNIFICENT DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT.

The Empire Theatre Thronged on St. Patrick's Night—The Inschavogue, Splendid Irish Drama, Preceded by a Musical and Literary Concert.

Before mentioning the particular programme so ably gotten up and so cleverly carried out by the members of the Young Irishmen's Literary and Benevolent Association, we could not do better than give a brief synopsis of the history of that association. In so doing we will borrow from the columns of the TRUE WITNESS, St. Patrick's Day number, for 1891.

The above is one of the oldest, if not the eldest, of our Irish Catholic young men's societies now extant. Its organization dates back as far as 1874, when it was formed for the purpose of advancing the study of literature among the young men. From the moment of its establishment the association became very popular, and this popularity continued increasing annually, until now it is recognized as one of the largest and most influential of our Irish Catholic societies. Its first meeting place was on the top flat of Mr. Theodore White's building on St. Joseph (now Notre Dame) street, but these quarters were quickly found to be too inadequate and more commodious ones were found a short distance westward on the same street, over the tailoring establishment of Mr. J. J. Milloy. In its beginning the Shamrock Lacrosse club found within the walls of the institution a home for the winter months, with all kinds of innocent recreation, such as games, library, reading room, etc. In 1875 the Shamrocks withdrew, and the same year witnessed the incorporation of the Y. I. L. & B. association. Ever since then the annual expenses amount to between \$1,200 and \$1,500. In 1888 the funds of the association had increased to such large proportions as to enable it to purchase the old Ebenezer Methodist church on Dupre lane, which cost, after being altered and repaired, about \$5,000, which amount the society managed to clear off in about five years. On the first floor is found a large amusement room, with billiard tables, checkers and other games, and adjoining this is a small reading room, where the principal literary and scientific magazines and Irish national journals are kept on file and carefully read by the members. Over these rooms is found a thoroughly equipped gymnasium and stage, the hall at times being used also for small complimentary entertainments given by the members. Adjoining this building is another of smaller dimensions, containing a well stocked library, which is liberally patronized. However, the annual influx of new members to the ranks of the society has become so great of late years that it is felt the association will shortly have to look for larger quarters. In fact an agitation has already been started in favor of a more commodious building, and it is to be hoped that the new idea will not fail in its accomplishment and execution. The members enjoy great advantages in point of social happiness. Their benefit branch is calculated to confer great help upon the needy. Their debating club has sent out a brilliant galaxy of intellectual champions. Their complete gymnasium tends to develop the physical man. Their dramatic section brings out the elocutionary abilities of the individual members. Their library and reading room are open to the knowledge seekers. In a word, they possess what any reasonable young man can desire in this regard. It may also safely be argued that the Young Irishmen have contributed in no small degree to chasten the literary taste and elevate the standard of public opinion of the Irish classes of Montreal by expunging from their soirées all forms of vulgarity and caricatures of Irish character, and securing superior talent in song and in music. Their dramatic section particularly has made great strides in the character of their performances. It also possesses among its members some actors of great promise, and their dramatic entertainments on St. Patrick's Day are always looked forward to with much satisfaction by their numerous admirers. Notwithstanding their heavy expenditure, the

Young Irishmen have never forgotten the claims of suffering Ireland upon their charities, and have ever been foremost in vindicating the rights of the Irish widow and orphan. On the occasion of the visits of O'Brien, Davitt and other patriots, they were among the first to accord them a cordial "Cied Mille Failte" and among the last to bid them farewell and a safe return to their suffering country. In public processions they are always looked for with much pride by all our Irish citizens. Their respectable bearing, steady marching and uniformity in attire, reflect credit on themselves as well as upon the race which they represent. The Y. I. L. & B. presents a record of presidents second to none in the city. We might mention among them Messrs. Morgan O'Connell, T. Mulcair, James McGarry, Wm. Doherty, P. H. Shea, P. J. Brennan, W. P. McNally, J. Davey, J. B. Line, Edward Tobin, C. McDonnell, Edward Halley, T. J. O'Neil, J. Gully, M. J. Shea, Michael Foran and W. J. Hinchy.

To this report, which still stands good, we might add that for five years this Association has not joined in the procession of the day. This year, however, all little differences being settled, and the Rev. Father Quinlan, the good Pastor of St. Patrick's having assumed the spiritual direction of the Society, they turned out in full force to do honor to the joyous occasion. The Association has purchased 5,000 feet of ground near their hall on Dupre Lane, which property fronts on Notre Dame street. The site is worth about \$20,000; and it is intended to build a hall at the cost of some \$30,000. This will be the only incorporated Irish Society in Canada owning a property to that extent and being full proprietors thereof. Since the above list of presidents was published there have been four besides the present one in the chair: Messrs. O'Brien, Lennan, Hinchy, Murphy, and, once more, Mr. Edward Halley. The following is the account of the concert.

The Empire Theatre was filled to overflowing on St. Patrick's night to witness the rendition of the Irish play the "Inschavogue" and to hear the sweet songs and music of the dear old land discoursed. Never did this popular society appear in better form or to greater advantage. Distance from the scenes of the society's former stage victories had no appreciable numerical difference on their friends and patron's attendance; in fact, it seemed to lend enchantment. North, South, East or West, the Young Irishmen's society is ever popular—no matter where they hold their entertainments—even were it in Lachine exclaimed an ardent admirer, they would be followed by an enthusiastic crowd of the best and purest Irish blood this side the Atlantic. No happier or more delighted people could be found than filled the Empire Theatre on St. Patrick's night. The ushers did their duty splendidly, and not a single contretemps occurred to mar the harmony of the largest and most enthusiastic crowd, ever gathered together within the walls of that place of amusement. It is the honor of the Young Irishmen that, they never cater to the baser passions—their plays while genuinely characteristic of the soil, always eschew that foulest curse of the nation—the "Stage Irishman." The sweet Irish girl was charmingly portrayed by the young ladies in their respective roles. Virtue, modesty, and that arch shyness, so peculiarly Irish, were delineated to the life. The hero of the play, the "Inschavogue," was the jolly, rollicking, quick-witted and intensely patriotic boy still to be met among the peasantry. Daring, incorruptable, and patriotic, he discomfited the designing villain of the play, and restored peace and happiness to more than one household. The national songs, dances, music, wit and humor delighted the immense audience. The national songs and choruses rendered by the society's Glee Club, and the solos by Messrs. McLean, Grant and Morgan, were charmingly rendered and vastly appreciated. Previous to the interpretation of "Inschavogue" Mr. E. Halley, the president, delivered a neat and appropriate speech. He referred to the progress the society had made since its inception some twenty years ago. While always self-sustaining and ready to lend a helping hand to the cause of Ireland, or any legitimate purpose, the Young Irishmen were worth in real estate and other assets a sum representing \$90,000. He also referred to the good the society had done morally and socially. Many young men of talent and

promise had found in the society an educator, an instructor and a beneficent mother; had such a society no existence, many who are now in positions of trust and honor, might have drifted, as waifs, on the world and perished on the innumerable rocks and shoals which beset unguided youth at every turn.

A fitting finale to a most enjoyable night was the singing of the National Anthem, "The Wearing of the Green," to which the vast audience rose, and mingled their voices in one harmonious whole with the Glee Club of the society.

PART I.

NATIONAL AIRS BY GLEE CLUB.

Chorus, "The Harp," Solo by J. J. McLean. President's Address, Mr. E. Halley. Duett, "Has Sorrow thy Young Days Shaded," P. J. Grant and J. J. Morgan. Solo, "Sunburst of Ireland," J. J. Morgan. Solo, "The Minstrel Boy," T. J. Grant. Chorus, "Erin, The Tear," Solo by J. J. Morgan.

PART II.

THE INSCHAVOGUE.

Cast of Characters.

Fergus McCarthy, the Inschavogue, Mr. J. McMahon. Herrick Wolfe, Mr. M. A. Phelan. Robert O'Hara, Mr. J. P. O'Connor. Lord Desmond, Mr. J. Lyons. Dennis, Mr. J. J. McLean. Lanty, Mr. P. J. Lyons. Captain Jones, Mr. H. O'Connor. Sergeant Fitz, Mr. J. Foley. Jailer, Mr. M. J. Kimball. Blanche O'Connell, with song, Miss M. McLean. Lady Desmond, Miss Hattie Macy. Mrs. McCarthy, Nelly, with songs, Miss May Kitts. Soldiers, Peasants, etc.

MOUNT ST. LOUIS COLLEGE.

St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

As usual the pupils of Mount St. Louis College celebrated in a worthy manner, the national festival of Ireland and the day consecrated to her patron saint. Owing to the number of concerts and entertainments to be given on the seventeenth, and also on the sixteenth, they took time by the forelock, and held their gala day upon Wednesday last. In the afternoon, at three o'clock, the spacious hall was thronged from the stage to the doors with members of the clergy and parents of the pupils, as well as with a host of citizens who have ever shown an interest in this admirable institution. The Rev. Brother Flavien, the Provincial presided, flanked on either side by Rev. Brother Stephen, the worthy Superior of Mount St. Louis and Rev. Brother Arnold the venerable director of St. Ann's school. The performance consisted of a select musical programme, most splendidly performed, and the presentation of one of Richard Brinsley Sheridan's drama's, "Pizarro." Needless to say that the whole was a complete success, and one scarcely knows which to admire the most, the exquisite musical treat served up by the members of the Mount St. Louis Band the Mount St. Louis Orchestra, or the most praiseworthy manner in which the drama was presented. The histrionic ability displayed was far above the ordinary for students, and the stage out fit was really fine.

The following is the programme and cast of character in the Drama scenes afterwards.

PROGRAMME.

Overture—Marche des Esprits.....Batos
M. S. L. Band.

PIZARRO.

ACT I.

Selections—Salute to Erin.....Lamotte
M. S. L. Orchestra.

ACT II.

Chorus—Now the Roll of the Lively Drum.....
M. S. L. Choir.

Violin Solo—Sixieme air Varié.....Ch. De Beriot
Chambord E. Giguere.

ACT III.

Waltz—On the Waves.....Rosas
M. S. L. Orchestra.

ACT IV.

Finale—Our Glorious Hopes.....Arnold
M. S. L. Band.

PIZARRO.

A Drama in Four Acts, by Richard Brinsley Sheridan, from the German of Kotzebue.

Cast of Characters:

Ataliba, King of Quillo, Edgerton A. McMillan. Rolia, Commanders of Patrick S. Battle. Aronzo, Ataliba's Army, James J. Sweeney. Pizarro, Spanish Leader, Frederick J. Patton. Valverde, Pizarro's Secretary, Chas. M. Hart. Las Casas, Spanish Priest, Clarence F. Smith. Elviro, Pizarro's Page, Chas. E. McFee. Almago, Friends and Reginald D. O'Neill. Davilla, Counselors, Maurice R. Sullivan. Gonzalez, of Pizarro, Wm. C. Rodgers. Gomez, Charles E. Wilson. Hernandez, John A. McCarthy. Orozumbo, An aged Peruvian Cacique, Luther D. McIntyre.

More, An old Blind Man, Robert D. McDonald. Topac, Grandson of More, H. S. Harrington. Orano, A Peruvian Officer, John F. Fahy. Mercata, A Spanish Guard, John O. Kearney. Alfonso, Aronzo's child, Damian J. Duffy. Officers, Soldiers, Warriors, Attendants, etc.

A dairy-maid and two pupils have been selected from the Munster Dairy School, Cork, to illustrate Irish dairy work at the Chicago Exhibition.

BROTHER ARNOLD'S SCHOOL

A Usually Enthusiastic Celebration of the National Festival.

On Thursday afternoon the St. Ann's Young Men's Hall was filled with a large and enthusiastic audience assembled for the two fold purpose of attending the competitions by the pupils for the first months of 1893, and of joining Brother Arnold and his boys in a celebration of St. Patrick's Day. The Rev. Provincial of the Christian Brothers was present and quite a number of his assistants. Rev. Father Catulle, C.S.S.R., occupied the seat of honor and was surrounded by many of the leading citizens. As usual the programme was most interesting and instructive. The faces of the five hundred and seventy lads were bright with joyous anticipations and beamed with a native intelligence. The programme, which, as will be seen, was lengthy and varied, was performed in a most exceptional manner, each one doing full credit to his part. The choruses, under the direction of Brother Austin, were very well rendered, and the recitations both patriotic and admirably delivered. The examinations of the little fellows in mental arithmetic were conducted by Brother Arnold and created both amusement and wonder at the promptness with which the urchins replied. The same can be said of the catechism class for the boys preparing for their first communion. At the close a beautiful address was read, on behalf of St. Ann's School, by one of the pupils to the Rev. Father Catulle, C.S.S.R., who is about to leave for Rome. After a most feeling reply the good father gave the Apostolic Benediction which Leo XIII had sent to all the Christian Brothers of the world, to all their pupils and to the parents of the pupils. The most enjoyable entertainment was brought to a close by the singing, in splendid style, of the national anthem, "God save Ireland." The following is the programme in full, and we can but say that the boys are a credit to their parents and an honor to Brother Arnold and his assistants, and we only can hope that the good Director will be spared many years to carry on his glorious work amidst the children of St. Ann's.

Trilo and Chorus, "Faith of Our Fathers," Pupils. Song, "Snowy Days," Junior Pupils. Recitation, "The Croppy Boy," Junior Pupils. Chorus, "The last Glimpse of Erin," Pupils. Recitation, "The Wexford Massacre," T. Donnelly. Dialogue, "Ignorance is Bliss," M. Kavanaugh, P. Hall, A. O'Leary. Notes obtained during January and February, Pupils of 3rd Class. Recitation, "One of the Little Ones," A. O'Leary. Competition, Catechism of First Communion, Pupils. Recitation, "The Polish Boy," T. Gleeson. Solo, "Erin! I sigh for Thee," P. Flood. Notes obtained during January and February, Pupils of 2nd and 1st Classes. Recitation, "Battle of Benbulbin," J. O'Hara. Chorus, "Give me my own Native Isle," Pupils. Recitation, "Curse of Regulus," J. Smythe. Quartette, "Jesum Omnes Agnosce," M. Kavanaugh, O. Leblanc, P. Flood, R. Rodrigue. Recitation, "The Irish Disturbance Bill," J. McKown. Chorus, "Come to the Shamrock's Home," Pupils. Address to the Rev. Father Catulle. THE NATIONAL ANTHEM, GOD SAVE IRELAND.

ST. ANTHONY'S CHOIR CONCERT.

A really good concert was given by the choir of St. Anthony's Church. Mr. A.P. McGuirk, the musical director, may be congratulated on his choir; all their selections were very well sung. The Harmony Quartette are so well known that it is needless to add more to their praise. Mrs. James Johnson and Mrs. Schmidt both sang their solos well. Other solos were sung by Messrs. A. P. McGuirk, W. P. Kearney, R. Byrden and A. G. Cunningham. Mr. R. J. McGuirk played a violin solo in his best style, and showed a great improvement in his technique. Mr. Dunn gave a fine recitation. Mr. James McShane, jr., caused great amusement by his recitation in French-Canadian dialect, and Mr. Percy Evans gave some of his clever monologue sketches. The Rev. J. E. Donnelly thanked the audience for their attendance, and trusted that the funds for the new organ would be thereby benefited.

The death is announced of Mr. Charles Boyle, C.S.S.R., a novice of the Redemptorist Order, at Teignmouth, Devonshire, Eng., at the early age of nineteen years. He was the son of M. Boyle, of Wellington Place, Dundalk, and a Brother of the Rev. T. Boyle, of Drogheda. He graduated at St. Mary's, Dundalk, and about three years ago joined the Redemptorist Order. Mr. Boyle had received minor orders.