

Wilkinson, Mrs., Chatham N. B.
Yeo, John
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THE BANQUET.

After the reception at the Palace their Lordships Bishops McIntyre and Rogers, together with the visiting Prelates and Clergy, as well as the other invited guests, repaired, by special train, at 2.30, to St. Dunstan's College. The beautiful grounds of this honored Institution were looking their best. Well trimmed lawns, bordered with flowers, and hedged with graceful fir trees, delighted the eye with their quiet beauty, and refreshed the worn soul with their cooling verdure. The guests enjoyed for a short time the pleasure of rambling through the rooms of the College, admiring its fitness as a seat of learning, or the more philosophic enjoyment of sitting beneath the shade of branching chestnut, or waving mountain ash, after the manner of the disciples of Aristotle in the groves around Athens. But classic reflections, and philosophic speculations were soon put to flight by the summons to dinner. It is wonderful how easily we descend from the lofty ideal to the grosser real ; it is sad to note the perfect resignation, not to say joy, with which we relinquish learned discussion or witty repartee, to hasten to the dinner table.

But in the present case this human weakness was excusable, perhaps. The large banquetting hall was artistically decorated with wreaths of evergreens, interspersed with delicate sprays of flowers, bannerettes with appropriate mottoes, crowns, coats-of-arms of the host and Dr. Rogers, eventful dates in their lives tastefully woven with flowers and leaves on a white ground, or emblazoned in gold, whilst words of welcome bade all feel that they were giving as well as receiving pleasure. Choice bouquets in vases and silver epergnes adorned the tables, and brightened,—almost idealized—the material aspect of the dining room. In the disposition and arrangement of flowers, and table service, good taste was everywhere observable.

The classic hall was soon resounding with merry jest, and joyous conversation. Everyone appeared to be happy, and