

the blessing it is said to be, how does it happen that the people are so blind as not to see it.—Vox populi, vox Dei. The people, assuredly cannot all be fools. If this revolution be really the spontaneous desire of the people wherefore the necessity of these great armaments to keep peace in the newly conquered countries? If the people, as a body, are satisfied—and on no other supposition can it be pretended to justify this revolution!—the malcontents will be in a minority, and therefore will not dare to lift up their heads. It is only where Caesarism and tyranny exist that a military occupation except as a guarantee against foreign aggression, is necessary.

SACERDOS.

GRAND PIC-NIC OF ST. PATRICK'S TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.

It affords us very great pleasure to direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of this excellent Society in another column, inviting their friends to meet them in Guilbault's Gardens, upon Wednesday next, the 24th inst.—the day fixed for the holding of their Great Pic-Nic, which we have no doubt will be the grandest affair of the kind that has ever taken place in this city. And so indeed it should be, for all the other Societies that have been from time to time organized in the interest of the Irish Catholic, we know of none that has worked more unostentatiously, or that has yet accomplished half the good achieved by the Saint Patrick's Total Abstinence Society. First established in the year 1841, by the lamented Bishop Phelan of Kingston, it has, under the wise direction of the good Priests of the Saint Patrick's Church, gone on from year to year, accumulating strength and influence; and to-day can boast of having enlisted under the sacred banner of temperance more than 4,000 members, all of whom have solemnly pledged themselves to wage incessant war against the demon of drunkenness, and to promote by every available means the happiness and prosperity of their fellow-men.

Surely a Society founded for so holy a purpose, and carried on with the vigor and determination which distinguishes the acts of this one, is deserving of our best support.

Let us then, one and all, old and young, embrace this the first opportunity we have ever had of publicly evincing our gratitude for the innumerable benefits which have flowed from the efforts of this Society, and made, as hundreds can testify, many a home happy and prosperous which before was the abode of drunkenness and destitution.

It is not, however, to acts of temperance alone that this Society confines its usefulness, for we have it upon the authority of the Rev. Father Hogan, who announced the fact last Sunday after Vespers, that they have undertaken to rebuild and decorate immediately the Altar of St. Joseph, in St. Patrick's Church.

In one word, the St. Patrick's Total Abstinence Society is working strenuously and effectively for the common good of the St. Patrick's congregation, and we can now only further say, may God grant them increased success.

(To the Editor of the True Witness.)

DEAR SIR,—As the Elections in the East Riding of Northumberland, and South Riding of Hastings, are over—and lost as far as Catholics are concerned—I take the liberty of asking you to publish in your invaluable journal, a few words of comment on the subject; as also, a portion of the proceedings of a meeting which was held in the Separate School Room in this place, pursuant to announcement on Sunday the 14th instant.

I said that we lost the elections in the two aforesaid Ridings. Yes! we lost them; but nevertheless, we console ourselves with the proud thought that we were united almost to a man in battling against "Clear-Gritism." We voted almost to a man against the followers of George Brown, who insulted our Priests and our Nuns, who slandered and maligned Catholicity and her institutions. But, by the bye, George Brown is defeated; he is no longer the Clear Grit leader, his race is run; the lamp of that political swindler, which once burned so brightly on the stage of Canadian politics is now extinguished—and it is to be hoped for ever. May his downfall serve as a warning to all those office-seekers and place-beggars who would fain ride into power by earnest appeals to the rampant bigotry of the country.

The meeting I alluded to above, was convened for the purpose of awarding our grateful thanks to the Rev. H. Brettargh, the zealous and devoted Pastor of this mission; Terence McCabe, Esq., was called to the Chair, and F. J. McGuire appointed Secretary.

The Messrs. McCabe, Redmond, and Meagher made short and appropriate addresses eulogistic of the many virtues of our worthy Pastor, at the same time remarking that we were blessed in Trenton, not only with a good and pious Pastor; but also with one capable of guiding us politically, as well as spiritually, combining the qualities of statesman and political economist with the most profound literary taste. The speakers complimented the meeting on the bold stand taken by the Catholics all over the Province, and that Trenton was not, at the late election, nor never was, behind hand, when the interests of Catholicity were at stake. And now that the elections were over, the speakers said, that they could afford to throw the mantle of charity over the faults of the few "Jemmy O'Briens"—(only four in number)—who are living amongst us; at least that they would, on the present occasion, treat them with silent contempt—a convincing illustration of the fact, that a would-be representative of Irish Catholics, either in a lonely and obscure village, or in a proud and mighty nation, must prove himself to be a good Catholic and an honest man before he can be a leader. 'Tis true the poor and confiding Irishman may, for a time, be duped by an intriguing and designing man, by a good story, coated over with bonied words; but, sooner or later,

the political buckster will be unmasked, and compelled to stand before the gaze of a discerning people in all the deformity of a hypocritical double-dealer.

We have in our midst one of this stamp, who is not content with endeavouring to pervert the Catholic vote to suit his own schemes, but would also, could he effect it, alienate the affections of the people from their beloved Pastor. But the demonstration in his favor on Sunday last, plainly proves how futile any such attempt would be. The true Irish Catholic, whose blood is yet uncontaminated by any mongrel breed, can never be bribed to betray the trust handed down to him by his sainted forefathers.

It was moved by Geo. W. Redmond, Esq., seconded by Hugh O'Rourke, Esq., and

Resolved,—"That we, the parishioners of the Trent Mission, fully sensible of the blessings bestowed upon us by Divine Providence, in sending us the truly pious and talented Pastor, Rev. H. Brettargh, and believing that he has discharged his duties faithfully and zealously in attending to the spiritual wants of his flock since he came amongst us, and in consequence of his indefatigable and successful exertions in uniting the Catholics under his watchful guidance at the late elections, do hereby tender him our grateful and well-merited thanks." Carried unanimously.

It was then moved by P. J. Meagher, Esq., and seconded by P. Lyons, Esq.,—"That the Secretary be requested to forward copies of the aforesaid resolution to the *True Witness*, *Toronto Mirror*, and *Canadian Freeman*, all of which journals were earnest in their endeavours to unite the Catholics of Upper and Lower Canada during the late struggle." Carried.

TERENCE McCABE, Chairman,
F. J. MCGUIRE, Secretary.

We find in the Quebec *Chronicle* an account of the Ursuline Convent of that city, and the annual examination of pupils. We transmit the notice of our Protestant cotemporary to our columns with much pleasure:—

THE URSULINE CONVENT—EXAMINATION OF THE PUPILS.

We had the pleasure of being present, on Tuesday last, at the examination of the pupils of the Ursuline Convent—one of our most ancient institutions, which last year acquired a great deal of notoriety owing to its being visited by the Prince of Wales.

The history of the Convent is not a little remarkable. Its foundation happened in this wise:—Some two centuries and more ago, a certain Father Paul le Jeune, returning from Canada to France, and preaching volubly of the spiritual wants of the land where he had laboured, fell all a phrase to this effect: "Ah! will not some good and pious lady be found who will visit that country, and gather up the precious drops of the blood of Jesus Christ, by instructing the little Indian girls?" Nor was his invitation fruitless for a certain Madame La Peltrie heard it, and believed it to be a special call to her, to devote her means and energies to the task.

This lady's history, as handed down by conventual writers, is exceedingly strange. Her maiden name was Margaret de Chauvigny. She was a daughter of the Lord of Vauguebon, and married once to please her father, survived him and her infant child, when being importuned by her parents to enter the convent, she refused, the following events occurred:—while very ill, so that her life was despaired of, she one day felt inspired to make a vow to St. Joseph, the first patron of Canada, that, if restored, she would found a house in Canada to his honor and devote her life to the instruction of Indian girls.

The Saint heard her vow; she slept sweetly for awhile, and, on awaking, "Madame," said her physician doubtless taking all the credit to himself, "you are cured—your fever is gone to Canada." Again, during a law-suit which threatened to deprive her of her property, she renewed her vow as to the Canadian scheme, and St. Joseph, again hearing her, miraculously intervened, for, "contrary to the expectation of all, a deputy next day came to tell her she had gained her suit." Nor was the more strictly mundane part of the preparations one whit less strange. The avoid the impurity of her father, she prevailed on a Mr. De Bernieres, the King's Treasurer at Caen, to ask her of him in marriage, which he did, and although the ceremony was not performed, they were somehow enabled, without molestation, to travel together to various religious establishments, at Tours, Paris, Dieppe, &c., enlisting the sympathies of many and the service of a few for the work they had taken in hand. Finally, however, Madame, along with three Ursuline nuns—Mother de L'Incarnation, Mother St. Joseph, from Tours, and Mother Cecilia de la Croix, from Dieppe—took ship at Dieppe, leaving Mr. De Bernieres behind, to attend to their temporal interests and arrange their remittances. After a stormy voyage of three months, they finally arrived in the port of Quebec, on the 1st of August, 1639.

The first habitation of the nuns was, we believe, on the banks of the St. Charles; but in 1641, they laid the foundation-stone of the new Convent—the first built in Canada by the Ursulines—where the present building now is. In December, 1650, the Convent was destroyed by fire, but was rebuilt, a few years afterwards. Those were stirring times in Quebec. The great earthquake of February the 6th 1663, frightened the nuns terribly, and there is a vivid description of it in the annals of the Convent. In 1690, the Iroquois Indians were very troublesome; the convent was turned into a fortress, and the nuns used to repair every night to the Jesuits' College, near the barracks; while among other agreeable incidents, it is recorded that some of the servants of the establishment who went, one evening to the farm which the Ursulines possessed outside St. John's gate were found the next morning, scalped and mutilated, and bound to stakes. At the death of Madame La Peltrie, in 1671, there were 22 nuns in the community, and the schools were full of little French and Indian girls.

Since then, the history of the Ursulines has been one of great prosperity, though of course they have experienced the vicissitudes of the city. Had we time and space, it would be interesting to recount the story. We must at once, however, come down to modern times. Within a few years, magnificent new buildings have been erected, among the most solid in Quebec. What the number of the nuns may be we know not—probably about fifty; and there are now nearly three hundred pupils under their instruction, of whom more than a hundred are boarders, a still larger number day-boarders, and the rest connected with the Normal School. It stands to reason that the instruction of Indian little girls is no longer the chief occupation of these *Religieuses*.

There was much that was pleasing about the examination of Monday and Tuesday last, though there was much that was singular too. The pupils, all looking pictures of health, were dressed in white, sans crinoline. The nuns themselves did not appear, the proceedings being conducted by the Rev. Mr. Lemoine. There were recitations, admirably delivered, musical performances, on the piano, harmonium and harp; and, among other pleasing features the young ladies performed several scenes from dramas. It was quite a novelty to us to see all the characters—male and female—sustained by girls, and, though perhaps they threw less energy into their parts than masculine amateurs would do, they made up for that in many other

ways. How handsome some of them looked in their novel dresses, and how irresistible would be an army of such warriors as the Bertrand of the day! If we remember aright, it was Queen Radegund, Superior of the Convent of St. Croix, near Poitiers, who first introduced into Middle Age society the practice of giving dramatic entertainments, so that such representations, within the walls of our Quebec Convent, are sanctioned by a very venerable precedent.

The distribution of prizes was a pleasant sight, too, to witness, as, one by one, the fortunate winners received a wreath of flowers, together with their books, from the hands of the Rev. Vicar-General Casseau.

But, to shorten all further description, we will conclude by the remark that it was evident, from the examination, that the school deserves its reputation of being one of the best in the Province.

REGIOPOLIS COLLEGE.—The annexed account of the annual examination of pupils and distribution of prizes at this flourishing institution is from the Kingston *Whig*:—

To the Editor of the Daily Whig.

SIR,—Last week the examination of the Students of Regiopolis College took place.

According to the programme, on Monday morning the examination of the English and Commercial department commenced, when the ready and correct answers, given in the most satisfactory manner, elicited the applause and surprise of those present; for although 'Regiopolis' has for years proved that she can produce classical scholars second to none in Canada, nevertheless, she was deficient in the important branches of English and Commercial Education, but the success attendant on the arrangements made at the beginning of last year has shown that now she can send forth persons who in after years if they do not succeed in business cannot attribute their failure to the education they received while within her walls.

We noticed that the systems of Book-keeping taught were those most approved of by the best Commercial Colleges in America.

Monday afternoon was spent in examining the first-year Latin students who, from the ease and facility with which they parsed and translated the most intricate sentences of Cæsar, clearly manifested that they must have remarkable talents and made good use of them.

They passed most brilliantly on the History of Canada and Geography, and showed such an amount of general knowledge that no one hesitated to say that next year they would certainly have no difficulty in following in the footsteps of those who were this year in the third class of versification, and who succeeded to the satisfaction of all, both Professors and friends, for, certainly, the manner in which they passed their examination on Virgil, Ovid, and Sallust, in Latin, and *Æsop's Fables* and the New Testament in Greek, would have done honor to an older institution than Regiopolis. After this class came the students of that of Belles Lettres, who read Livy, Cicero and Horace in Latin, and Lucian and the *Anabasis* of Xenophon in Greek, and who, likewise, by their translation of the difficult parts of Horace and Xenophon proved that they were deeply grounded in the knowledge of Latin and Greek, while their fluent rendition of Cicero into English, clearly demonstrated that they were masters of their mother tongue.

The students of the Rhetoric class agreeably surprised those present by their acquaintance with literature in general, while the manner in which they handled Sophocles, Euripides, *Æschylus*, *Chrysostom*, *Tacitus*, *Horace*, *Cicero* De Oratore, firmly convinced them that this class could not have been in better hands than those in which it was.

The whole of the classical students read and translated French with fluency, and not a small number of them held conversations with as much ease as if they were in that tongue speaking English.

The students of Philosophy passed remarkably well in Logic, Metaphysics and Ethics, and from their dissection of arguments showed that it would not be easy to deceive them by sophistry. The class of Mathematics in Trigonometry, Euclid and Mensuration, honorably maintained the reputation of its professor, who is undoubtedly one of the first Mathematicians in Canada. The examinations being over, on Wednesday afternoon the distribution of prizes took place in the large recreation hall, which was appropriately decorated for the occasion.

A number of our leading fellow-citizens were present, as well as several clergymen from a distance. At 2½ o'clock p.m., the President of the College, the Very Rev. A. McDermott, took the chair, when the College Orchestra played a piece of music in a most artistic style, after which Mr. Walker delivered a speech on Irish Orators which was well received.

Then followed a piece of music, which being ended, Mr. Gauthier ascended the stage and held forth on the reign of Louis XIV., which was undoubtedly a splendid production, and would have borne off the palm were it not for Mr. McKinnon, who, later in the afternoon, completely carried away his auditors while he spoke of the late Irish Brigade in Italy. The orchestra having ceased playing after the conclusion of Mr. McKinnon's speech, the prizes were distributed to those whose names I am enabled to send you, thanks to the kindness of the Rev. Mr. O'Brien, Director of the College.

After all had received their prizes, the President arose, and after having declared himself well satisfied with the moral conduct and improvement of the Students during the past session, declared the College would now close until the first of next September.

The orchestra played God Save the Queen, all standing, after which the assembly dispersed, highly gratified at what they had seen and heard.

The following is the list of those who received prizes and honorable mention:

PHILOSOPHY CLASS.

Prize—P. Walker, Lindsay.

MATHEMATICS.

Prize—P. Walker, Lindsay.

RHETORIC CLASS.

LATIN THEMES.

1st Prize—James McDermott, E. Boston.

2nd " E McGrath, East Boston, and John Cicolari, Kingston (ex æquo).

1st Accessit—C. Murray, Kingston.

2nd " C Gauthier, Alexandria.

LATIN VERSION.

1st Prize—J. McDermott, E. Boston.

2nd " Christopher McGrath, do., and C. Gauthier, Alexandria (ex æquo).

1st Accessit—Wm. Buckley, Prescott.

2nd " John Cicolari, Kingston.

GREEK.

1st Prize—J. McDermott, E. Boston.

2nd " C McGrath, do.

1st Accessit—John Gray, Prescott.

2nd " Charles Murray, Kingston.

ENGLISH COMPOSITION.

1st Prize—C. McGrath, E. Boston.

2nd " J. McDermott, do.

1st Accessit—C. Gauthier, Alexandria and William Buckley, Prescott (ex æquo).

2nd " John Cicolari, Kingston.

HISTORY OF ENGLAND.

1st Prize—C. McGrath, E. Boston, and James M'Dermott, do., (ex æquo).

2nd Prize—John Gray, Prescott.

1st Accessit—John Cicolari, Kingston.

2nd " Charles Murray, do.

BELLES LETTRES CLASS.

LATIN THEMES.

1st Prize—Thomas Maloney, Kingston.

2nd " J. J. Graham, Port Hope.

1st Accessit—J. Delahanty, East Boston.

2nd " J. Murphy, Huntington.

LATIN VERSION.

1st Prize—J. J. Graham, Port Hope.

2nd " J. Delahanty, East Boston.

1st Accessit—Thos. Maloney, Kingston.

2nd " John McGillis, Williamstown.

TRANSLATION OF LATIN AUTHORS.

1st Prize—J. J. Graham, Port Hope.

2nd " J. Delahanty, East Boston.

1st Accessit—Thomas Maloney, Kingston.

2nd " William Harty, Peterboro.

GREEK.

1st Prize—J. J. Graham, Port Hope.

2nd " Thomas Maloney, Kingston.

1st Accessit—J. Delahanty, East Boston.

2nd " James Morrow, South Mountain.

ENGLISH COMPOSITION.

1st Prize—J. J. Graham, Port Hope.

2nd " James Murphy, Huntington, and John Delahanty, East Boston, (ex æquo.)

1st Accessit—Francis Rourke, Kingston.

2nd " John McGillis, Williamstown.

HISTORY MODERN.

1st Prize—Thomas Maloney, Kingston.

2nd " J. Delahanty, East Boston, and J. McGillis, Williamstown, (ex æquo.)

1st Accessit—J. J. Graham, Port Hope, and A. McDermott, Kingston, (ex æquo.)

2nd Accessit—James Murphy, Huntington.

GEOGRAPHY AND USE OF GLOBES.

1st Prize—J. Delahanty, East Boston.

2nd " J. McGillis, Williamstown.

1st Accessit—J. J. Graham, Port Hope.

2nd " Thos. Maloney, Kingston.

ARITHMETIC.

1st Prize—James Morrow, S. Mountain.

2nd " J. Delahanty, E. Boston.

1st Accessit—Palk E. McMullin, Pittsburgh.

2nd " J. Murphy, Huntington.

VERSIFICATION CLASS—LATIN THEMES.

1st Prize—J. F. Leonard, Peterboro.

2nd " G. Maguire, Quebec, C. E.

1st Accessit—M. Purcell, Kingston.

2nd " P. Dunne, Peterboro.

LATIN VERSION.

1st Prize—J. F. Leonard, Peterboro.

2nd " Patrick Dunne, "

1st Accessit—M. Purcell, Kingston.

2nd " J. Baker, "

TRANSLATION OF LATIN AUTHORS.

1st Prize—J. F. Leonard, Peterboro.

2nd " M. Purcell, Kingston.

Ex æquo—Joseph Baker, "

1st Accessit—G. Maguire, Quebec.

2nd " P. Dunne, Peterboro.

GREEK.

1st Prize—John F. Leonard, Peterboro.

2nd " M. Purcell, Kingston.

1st Accessit—J. Baker, "

2nd " Edward Jordan, Trenton.

ENGLISH COMPOSITION.

1st Prize—John F. Leonard, Peterboro.

2nd " Edward Jordan, Trenton.

1st Accessit—G. Maguire, Quebec.

2nd " P. Dunne, Peterboro.

HISTORY OF ROME.

1st Prize—John F. Leonard, Peterboro.

2nd " G. Maguire, Quebec.

1st Accessit—M. Purcell, Kingston.

2nd " J. Baker, "

GEOGRAPHY AND USE OF GLOBES.

1st Prize—John F. Leonard, Peterboro.

2nd " Edward Jordan, Trenton.

1st Accessit—J. Baker, Kingston.

2nd " M. Purcell, "

ARITHMETIC.

1st Prize—John F. Leonard, Peterboro.

2nd " J. Harpell, Waterloo.

1st Accessit—J. Baker, Kingston.

2nd " Michael Purcell, "

LATIN AND ENGLISH CLASS.

1st Prize—John J. Howard, Kingston.

2nd " John O'Donnell, S. Douro.

1st Accessit—Michael Ahern, Kingston.

2nd " Thomas Davis, "

LATIN THEMES.

1st Prize—John O'Donnell, S. Douro.

2nd " Thos. Davis, Kingston.

1st Accessit—John J. Howard, do.

2nd " M. Ahern, do.

TRANSLATION OF LATIN AUTHORS.

1st Prize—John J. Howard, Kingston.

2nd " Thomas Davis, do.

1st Accessit—J. O'Donnell, South Douro.

2nd " Michael Ahern, Kingston.

ENGLISH COMPOSITION.

1st Prize—Thos. Davis, Kingston.

2nd do—John O'Donnell, S. Douro.

1st Accessit—John J. Howard, Kingston.

2nd " Michael Ahern.

HISTORY—CANADA.

1st Prize—John J. Howard, Kingston.

2nd " John O'Donnell, S. Douro.

1st Accessit—Thos. Davis, Kingston.

2nd " Michael Ahern.

GEOGRAPHY AND USE OF GLOBES.

1st Prize—John J. Howard, Kingston.

2nd " John O'Donnell, S. Douro.

1st Accessit—Michael Ahern, Kingston.

2nd " Thos. Davis, "

ARITHMETIC.