

## THE CORK SCHOOL OF ART.

We are always pleased to record the progress made by the pupils at this school, as testified by the reports of the head master, Mr. Brennan, and borne out by the several speakers at the annual gatherings for the distribution of prizes to the successful pupils. At that recently held, under the presidency of the Mayor, Mr. Murphy, M.P., delivered an address on the subject of the enlargement of the present School of Art, and the establishment of a School of Music; while Professor Armstrong read a paper "On the Progress of Art from the Earliest Ages." Did our space permit, we would willingly print *in extenso* the valuable report read by Mr. Brennan. From it we learn that the number attending the school for the year has been 249, being an increase of 23 over previous year. Nine prizes were obtained at South Kensington, and 24 students passed the examinations of the second grade. In the science examinations 12 passed and 4 obtained Queen's prizes. Mr. Matthew Mullins has again distinguished himself in the Society of Arts examinations in Technology; he has this year obtained the highest prize it is in their power to bestow, namely, a first class in Honors, the certificate from the Society of Arts, together with the silver medal, certificate, and £5 from the Coachmakers' Company of London, thus beating every candidate in the United Kingdom; having now obtained the highest prize he must be content to wear his laurels.

Mr. Murphy, M.P., moved the adoption of the report. Art in Cork (he said) and the love of and talent for art was running waste, because it wanted some guiding spirit, some space, some material support whereby art might be brought into proper cultivation. Even under the difficulties they had to contend with, he thought he was not wrong in stating that the city of Cork would compare favourably with any of the large towns of England. . . . If they helped themselves by erecting a proper building for art purposes, he could state that the authorities at South Kensington would give them a handsome donation, as well as contributions of works of art to fill their gallery.

After entering into particulars as to the means of raising £5,000 for the erection of a new building, Mr. Murphy said:—He would make a long story short by telling them that he, with his friend Mr. Goulding, had communicated with her Majesty's Government. They saw his Grace the Duke of Marlborough, and communicated with the Chief Secretary for Ireland and the Attorney-General. An Act had been passed last session, and which had received the Royal assent, by which they would be enabled to raise the sum of money required. He had got a promise from the Board of Works of their willingness to advance such a sum. They intended to go to the Corporation and ask them to advance the necessary sum on the security of a halfpenny rate towards the payment of professors of music, and that, together with students' fees, would place them in a fair position. Before long they intended going to the Corporation and asking them to raise £2,500, they would get £1,000 from South Kensington, and he would be very much mistaken indeed if the high-minded and influential citizens of Cork did not assist them largely.

Professor Armstrong then came forward and read his paper, after which the Mayor handed the prizes, and the proceedings terminated.

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