Patience and perseverance, however, have blessed their efforts; and in two years and a half after such a weak beginning, they have the happiness to see daily around them one hundred and twenty-five girls, to whom they pay monthly, in wages alone, from £16 to £18. From April 1850, they have paid in wages the sum of £370.

When the reader reflects that sixty of these poor creatures have been taken from the Workhouse, and that but for the exertions of the ladies of this community, these sixty, and a great many others, together with their families, would be at the present moment inmates of the Union-house, and consequently a heavy tax on the rate-payers of Tallow, the conviction forces itself on the mind, that much can be done by exertion and perseverance, to alleviate the condition of the poor.

London is the principal market for the sale of the work; and Mr. Gobble, the merchant, with whom the school is connected in the way of business, states that the lace now supplied by the Convent of Tallow is equal to the French. That gentleman has, as I understand, done much towards the prosperity of the school, having at all times manifested great interest in its progress as well as consideration in his dealings.

THE SCHOOL OF THE CONVENT OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, LIMERICK.

Deep interest attaches to this institution, not only from the varied and beautiful nature of the work executed within its sheltering walls, but from the sad condition of those poor beings by whom it is executed. The community consists chiefly of foreign Nuns, who have not been in this country more than four years; but, since then, they have not only been the means of saving many of their own sex from despair, and perhaps a death of horror, but have introduced entirely new branches of industry, which have been already carried to a degree approaching perfection. The Convent was chiefly established for the conversion of female penitents, and affords

Thus this institution presents a scene of unceasing industry and labour, carried on under the watchful eye and tender care of those who are themselves models of piety and purity; thereby imparting a healthful tone to minds broken down by misfortune and misery, and to hearts tainted by crime, but refreshed, and in happy instance, restored, by the tears of penitence and contrition. The reader, whatever be his or her feelings with respect to religious matters, must agree with me, that this is a truly godlike institution; and that the work marked out by this community, not from year's end to year's end, but from the first flush of youthful womanhood, to the last hour of expiring age, is one which, to say the least, merits the respect and reverence of even the most heedless in the busy world outside those walls. The good citizens of Limerick, of all persuasions, hold it in due estimation, as may be judged of by the liberal nature of the support which they afford it. But still, in spite of that ceaseless labour which I have described, its resources will not admit of more extended relief; and many a wanderer on the thorny path of life turns away in despair from this haven of consolation and peace, though gentle tears are dropped on her bleeding wounds by those who, spotless themselves as the innocence of childhood, feel the tenderest compassion for the sorrows and sufferings of their afflicted sister. If the public aid them, by more liberal orders for their work, the Nuns of the Good Shepherd will repay the benefit a thousand-fold.

THURLES CONVENT SCHOOL.

The industrial school of the Presentation Convent of Thurles is second to none in the style of its crochet work, which is said to be fully equal to what is done in Blackrock. The other work of this school consists of plain and fancy work, muslin embroidery, knitting, spinning, and weaving. It was established at the commencement of the Famine, when numbers of poor female servants were thrown out of place, without any resource, save that of breaking stones

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. LIMERICK.

THE

INDUSTRIAL MOVEMENT

IN IRELAND,

AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE

NATIONAL EXHIBITION

OF

1852;

BY

JOHN FRANCIS MAGUIRE, M.P.,

MAYOR OF CORK.

CORK:
JOHN O'BRIEN, 45, PATRICK-STREET;
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