

country by martial law (cheers). If then the Irish nation desired a Parliament on a federal basis, if the Irish leaders agreed that they could formulate and work a practical scheme—and he believed they could—if they loyally accepted the supremacy of the Crown and of the Imperial Parliament, then, in God's name give them a Parliament in College-green (loud cheers). The Tories must settle this great question of Home Rule in Ireland with Mr. Parnell himself. He believed, however, that in spite of the disgraceful behaviour of the Tories, ample compensation might and would be found in the national aspirations of Irishmen, and in the life-giving effects of a free and constitutional government." Here at all events there is no beating about the bush: Mr. Gladstone goes straight to the point, and, of course, when we consider whose son he is, his words must carry double weight. What a blessed thing happened when the late Government was beaten by the Irish vote on that memorable 9th June!

ST. PATRICK'S SCHOOL SOUTH DUNEDIN.

The third annual distribution of prizes took place at this school, which is conducted by the Dominican Nuns, on Friday, the 4th inst. His Lordship the Bishop was present, with the Rev. Fathers O'Neill and Purton, O.S.B., and several visitors also attended. The side room into which the door of entrance opened had been devoted to the show of needlework of various kinds, which was of the most creditable kind. Indeed, considering the short time the school has been under the care of the nuns, and that this was the first exhibition of the sort attempted, the display made was quite astonishing, and the progress made by the pupils has been admirable. Due attention, moreover, has been bestowed upon the plainer branches of the art as well as upon those that are ornamental and which were all represented in many different forms. Our attention was drawn particularly to the cushion made by the joint efforts of the infant classes, and which was very pretty and tasteful. The business of the day was commenced with an entertainment given by the pupils, and in the intervals of which certificates were distributed by the Bishop to the children who had distinguished themselves in the various standards.—The programme was as follows:—Chorus, "In Mercy Hear Us"; pianoforte duet, "I Know a Bank," Misses Magrath and Coughlin; pianoforte solo, "Bride of the Wind," Miss Grace Stoke's. Certificates, 1st. Standard. Vocal duet, "The Rose," Misses Rose and Kate Blaney; recitation, "The Adopted Child," Miss Hayes and Master Shannon; pianoforte duet, "The Caledonians," Misses Magrath and T. Meade; chorus, "Musicians All," Infant School; pianoforte solo, "Chilperic," Miss Rose Blaney. Certificates, 2nd. Standard. Vocal solo, "The Swanrock," Miss R. Drumm; pianoforte solo, "Chilperic," Miss Moloney; recitation, "Tiy Agan"; vocal quartett, "Buttercups and Daisies," Misses L. Howard, Rose and K. Blaney, K. Whelan; pianoforte duet, "Beautiful Isle of the Sea," Misses Lilie Griffin and A. Moloney. Certificates, Low 3rd. Standard. Vocal solo, "Eru te Tear and the Smile," Miss Murphy; Girls' recitation, "To-day and Tomorrow," pianoforte solo, "Cujus Animam," Miss Amy Moloney; chorus, "O, Call my Brother back to Me," Certificates, High 3rd. Pianoforte solo, "La Gitana," Miss Henry; vocal solo and chorus, "O'er the Blue Wave," Certificates, 4th. Standard. Pianoforte duet, "Grande Valse," Special Prizes. "New Zealand National Anthem."

The performance of each of these items was most pleasing, and spoke well for the industry of the pupils in the past as well as for the future prospects of the school. The simultaneous recitations were given distinctly and with good emphasis, and the musical talents shown by the pupils were remarkably striking. The chorus "Musicians All," in which several of the smaller boys assisted with various toy instruments, was particularly amusing, but where all was so good, it would be impossible as well as invidious to make distinctions. On the conclusion of the programme, the Bishop distributed the prizes, consisting of handsome books and pretty objects of devotion. His Lordship then addressed the children, expressing his gratification at the entertainment given, and which had been so creditably gone through with. If a judgment were to be formed by it the sentence must be highly favourable to the school. The examinations, on the whole, been satisfactory and showed considerable improvement, especially in the Christian doctrine, in which the answering had been very good, but there still remained much to do. Some of the children had done good work, but there were some who might have done better. Punctuality in attendance was a very necessary thing, and without it no good results could be hoped for. One of the things that told against the school was the irregular attendance of several of the children, and he would ask of them and of their parents to be more attentive to this matter in the future. The boys, too, were sometimes rough, especially in the play-ground, and among the worst practices they occasionally indulged in was that of throwing stones; this was particularly bad, and it could not be too strongly guarded against. He hoped they would try and conduct themselves in every respect properly, and exercise forbearance and kindness towards each other. Their teachers deserved their utmost consideration; they were never absent, they came every day, coming a long distance, and worked hard for the benefit of the children, and he thanked them for the excellent work which they had done. The Bishop further referred in complimentary terms to the exhibition of needlework, which he said showed conclusively how well that part of the girls' education had been attended to. His Lordship added that the number of children on the roll of the school was 229, and the average attendance 190; an attendance that, considering how many of the pupils were little children might be regarded as highly satisfactory.—The proceedings terminated with the New Zealand Anthem. The prize list was as follows:—

Regular Attendance.—Girls: Teresa Meade, Mary Kehoe, Nora Shannon, Mary A. Tierney, Kate Perkins. Boys: Arthur McKay, Tom Sullivan.

Cit. chism.—Kate Hayes, Bridget Heffernan, Maggie Whelan, Kate Whelan, Rose Blaney, Mary Cuff, Alice Marlow, Bessie Murray, Mary Laugan, Mary Kehoe, Mary Burke, Sarah Montague, Lizzie Coughlin.

Needlework.—Fancy, 1st prize: M. Coughlin; 2nd, Kate Hayes, B. Blaney, L. Howard, Kate Bellet. Plain Work, 1st prize: B. Heffernan, K. Blaney, Alice Marlow.

Good Conduct.—Girls: Maggie Heffernan. Boys: J. Casey.

INFANT SCHOOL.

Regular Attendance.—Boys: Tom Shannon, Edward Keating, Patrick Mullen, James Lennon. Girls: M. Lennon, Maggie Kehoe.

Good Conduct.—Boys: John Dee, Andrew McDonald. Girls: Julia Ryan, Eveline Murray.

First Standard.—27 examined, 12 passed. 2nd Standard.—10 examined, 5 passed. Low 3rd Standard.—18 examined, 7 passed. High 3rd Standard.—20 examined, 14 passed. 4th Standard.—6 examined, 5 passed.

DR. NULTY'S ADDRESS.

ON his return from Rome the Bishop of Meath, replying to several addresses presented to him at Mullingar, spoke as follows:—

There is one great and leading idea which pervades all these addresses and which dominates conspicuously in each of them, and it is this—that they all repudiate, reject, reprobate and condemn the lying, violent, offensive, and indecent attacks that have been made on me by the anti-Irish Press of London and Dublin during my absence (groans). For alluding to these attacks I thank you from my heart; and why? Because you haven't consoled or sympathised with me as if these attacks made on me were a misfortune, but seem rather to have rejoiced and congratulated me upon these attacks as an event of which I ought to feel proud (bear, hear and applause). And I do feel justly proud of these attacks made on me (cheers). I ask myself what have I done—what have I written—what service have I rendered my country or my religion that I should bring down upon myself the full torrent of the violent vituperation of the anti-Irish and the anti-Catholic Press of London and Dublin. The last pastoral that I wrote leaving Ireland's shore seems to have thoroughly frightened them all (laughter). It seems further to have infuriated them, and in the blindness and passion of their anger they bring out of it a charge against me which proves that they themselves were simply demoted by passion and anger. That pastoral was written very hurriedly. I had not time to finish it at home. I finished it on the steamboat between Kingstown and Holyhead. Every one of them—the London Times, the Morning Post, the Spectator, the Whitehall Review, the Saturday Review, the St. James's Gazette, and a whole lot of others I can't remember, winding up, of course, with the Irish Times and the Evening Mail—every one of them accused me of intimidating the Sovereign Pontiff. If I had time I would read some of these extracts. My friend Mr. Sullivan has collected them all together. However, I won't waste time by reading them, but I will reply to them. I to intimidate the Sovereign Pontiff! A humble country bishop to think of intimidating the Sovereign Pontiff! Why, I should not have a particle of faith, or religion, or even a vestige of common sense if I was silly enough to do so. Intimidate the Sovereign Pontiff! Why, you could not. Ladies and gentlemen, you would feel the moment you enter into the august presence of the Sovereign Pontiff a feeling of indescribable awe come over you. You feel you are standing on the spot, the highest point on earth, the point where earth almost touches heaven, and you cannot help venerating, revering, and loving the Sovereign Pontiff—loving him not merely on account of his high and exalted position, loving him not merely because he is the highest representative of God's law on this earth, loving him not only on account of the great erudition and wisdom which he possesses, but Irishmen will feel compelled to love him on another ground, and that is because Leo's heart—as we Irishmen say—is in the right place (cheers). Leo's heart beats fervently, warmly, and affectionately for the Irish race and the Irish nation (loud cheers). Therefore, the idea of intimidating the Sovereign Pontiff is simply absurd and ridiculous. Why, there were great and mighty kings and despots—Alaric, the King of the Huns, the mighty Emperor of Germany, and lastly in our own times the powerful Napoleon the First. This man with countless legions at his back, he and every one of them failed ignominiously. At the single word of *non possumus* those despotic tyrants quailed. These words paralysed the arms of legions. At these words the sword fell from their hands and they were rendered utterly powerless. I, then, to think of doing what these mighty emperors failed to do is simply absurd and ridiculous. But, ladies and gentlemen, what is the meaning of intimidation? Every one of these writers accused me of this crime. Why, to intimidate anyone is to do an injustice and injury. That is the wrong it does. It causes him pain and gives him displeasure. Now, what is my intimidation? My letter did not intimidate the Sovereign Pontiff. My letter, instead of causing him or doing him an injustice or wrong, conferred a great benefit on him. Instead of causing him pain, that letter filled his heart with joy and gladness, for, ladies and gentlemen, the answer you gave to that letter was simply this—that in two weeks you collected and sent to me in Rome the splendid contribution of £1,800 for the Sovereign Pontiff (great cheering and cries of "We'll do it again")—and in sending that contribution you proved uncontestedly and unanswerably to the world that your love and affection and devotion to the Holy See are as deep and solid and as strong and as affectionate as could warm the bosoms of Irishmen in any part of the world (great cheering). The Holy Father, when I presented him with your gift, was overpowered and astonished by your munificence and generosity, and, said he, "when you return tell your people that I am grateful, most grateful and most thankful to them and that the munificence