

would see no such realisation. Still, the mineral resources of Greymouth must eventually bring her to the front. The harbour works had been successful beyond their most sanguine expectations, and he had great hopes of the Midland Railway line. It would be remembered that he had made a "sporting offer" of £50,000 a year for the carriage of coal on the line. Well, wild as that was deemed, he would make the offer again, for the saving in breakage of coal would more than compensate for the entire cost. Coming back again to Catholic matters, he said that the Catholic community of Greymouth, though it was small, and, generally speaking, consisted of the poorest people, had spent more than £10,000 on educational and church buildings during the past 10 years, besides contributing between £400 and £500 a year towards the maintenance of the schools. The churches they had recently erected was a credit to the place, and very few churches in New Zealand, unless, perhaps, the Cathedral in Dunedin, would compare with it; while as to their convent buildings, they could not be surpassed in the Colony, unless, perhaps, at Timaru. Concluding, he said it would be a pleasure to him at all times to do anything he could for Greymouth and its citizens as far as lay in his power.

Mr. Sheedy, in bearing testimony to the good work performed by Mr. Kennedy, said he had been mainly instrumental in establishing the first school in Greymouth which was open to all classes and creeds, and this for five years was the only school in the district. He regretted very much Mr. Kennedy's departure from the district, for he had been the foremost man therein. He trusted he would meet with that success in the future which his energy and integrity deserved. The speaker intimated that he would probably be leaving the district soon.

The Chairman proposed "the Press," which was responded to by Mr. Petrie.

"Local Bodies," was responded to by Messrs. Dupre and Philips. "The Host" and "Chairman," were also duly proposed and acknowledged.

Messrs. M'Davitt and Bourke gave a couple of capital songs.

### DUNEDIN IRISH RIFLES' CONCERT.

A VERY successful and numerously-attended concert was given in the Garrison Hall, on Monday evening, by the Dunedin Irish Rifles, as a celebration on the part of their corps of St. Patrick's Day. Among the audience present we noticed the Most Rev. Dr. Moran; the Revs. Fathers Lynch, Hunt, O'Donnell and O'Neil, Colonel Jack, Major Callan, Captains Stout and Beal, and a large number of prominent citizens. The programme opened with selections from Balfe, performed very brilliantly by the Dunedin Garrison Band, under the conductorship of Mr. Wisbart. The rest of the programme, with the exception of some comic recitations capably given by Mr. W. F. Young, a quartette sung by pupils of the Dominican nuns, and a flute solo well played by Mr. T. Deehan, consisted of vocal solos. Miss Wooldridge sang, in the artistic manner for which she is distinguished, two songs, "Kate O'Shane" and "The Bells of Shandon," the second by no means one easy to give with proper expression. Miss Wooldridge, however, as was to be expected, did more than justice to it, and gave a really fine rendering of it. Miss Hodge sang, with pathos, "The Fisherman and his Child" and "The Chorister." Miss Julia Knight, who well maintained the fame earned by her at Exhibition concerts, sang "O Erin, My Country" and "The Vale of Avoca," in both instances, but particularly in the latter, acquitting herself admirably. Miss Mary Morrison sang, with charming sweetness, "Kathleen Mavourneen," and took part also in a quartette, Moore's "Though the Last Glimpse of Erin," with the Misses M. and G. Howell, and K. Blaney, the accompaniment being played on the harp by Miss A. Lynch. These young ladies, we may add, showed themselves worthy pupils of the Dominican nuns, and performed their several parts to admiration, fully deserving the encore accorded them. The gentlemen who sang were Mr. W. F. Young, whose sonorous bass was heard to great advantage in both the songs given by him; Mr. C. Umbers, whose singing of the "Dear Little Shamrock" was especially appreciated, and Mr. Densem, who brought down the house and caused intense amusement by a most felicitous interpretation of "Father O'Flynn." The singing, indeed, was in every respect most creditable to those who took part in it. The hall had been appropriately decorated for the occasion, and the arrangement of the platform especially was most tasteful.

Mr Parnell (says the *New York Herald*) has been for years Mrs O'Shea's most intimate friend, and for this friendship there are said to be most cogent reasons. The story goes that a dozen years ago Parnell fell deeply in love with Captain O'Shea's younger sister, who was a handsome, vivacious girl, and unusually intellectual. She responded gladly to her lover's affection and the two plighted troth and agreed to become one after some months of happy courtship had passed. The wedding day was almost at hand, when suddenly the young girl's health began to fail rapidly. The marriage was, of course, postponed, and everything possible was done to restore the prospective bride's health. Soon, however, it became clear that she was doomed. Day by day she wasted away until finally the last hour of her young life came. Then, it is said, she whispered her last words to her lover, as he knelt heart-broken by her bedside, and implored him by his great love for her to promise her then and there that he would ever protect and befriend her darling brother. Mr Parnell gave the required promise and soon afterward his sweetheart passed away. How Mr. Parnell has kept his promise all the world knows. Through thick and thin, in the face of almost overwhelming opposition, he has stood by his dead sweetheart's brother, Captain O'Shea, and when the Captain married Sir Evelyn Wood's sister, Mr Parnell, still true to his promise, became her good friend also, and as time went on came to be regarded by her and her husband as one of their own family.

### A GRAND OLD SCHOOLMASTER.

(Sydney Freeman's Journal.)

A RECENT reference to the work of the Jesuit Fathers in Australia which appeared in the *Dublin Freeman* has suggested a brief review of the work of the Australian "grand old man" of the Order. The name of the Very Rev. Joseph Dalton is known and revered by many people, both Catholic and Protestant, in Australia, but it may be asserted that few have any idea of the material benefits that have been brought to our Catholic commonwealth by the practical wisdom, foresight, and indefatigable labours of Father Dalton during the past quarter of a century. The disadvantage that the Catholic community laboured under through the State withholding all aid from its higher scholastic institutions has been demonstrated by the fact that both St. Patrick's College in Melbourne, and Lyndhurst College, near Sydney, were, after a hard battle for existence, permanently closed before the advent of the Fathers. Towards the end of the year 1865 Father William Kelly and Father Lentaigne, landed in Melbourne, and shortly after Father Dalton, accompanied by Father Edward Nolan and Father M'Innery, arrived and re-opened St. Patrick's College.—Three years after, with consummate foresight, Father Dalton purchased seventy acres of land at Kew, at that time a neglected little village near Melbourne, where to-day stands the magnificent college of St. Francis Xavier, in the midst of a largely populated and fashionable suburb. For that property, which was originally bought for ten thousand pounds, an offer, it is said, of a hundred thousand pounds has since been refused. When the parish of Richmond, near Melbourne, in its wretchedly neglected state, was handed over to the Jesuits, Father Dalton bought a piece of land for three thousand pounds, upon which he erected a splendid church and a presbytery; he also built a very fine church at Hawthorn, and a school-chapel in the village of Kew, where the children of the poor were taught free. About the year 1879, Father Dalton received marching orders for Sydney. Turning his back upon all his great achievements in Victoria, his multitude of sorrowing friends, the poor and the sick, to whom he had been an ever ready succourer and consoler, and with all his worldly belongings in a carpet-bag, he came at the invitation of the late Archbishop Vaughan to Sydney. As in Melbourne, Father Dalton found the chief Catholic scholastic institution closed. However, not daunted, he rented St. Kilda House at Woolloomooloo and established a day-school. Soon after, Father Clancy was installed rector of that school, which under the name of St. Aloysius' at Surry Hills—a fine new building being erected—was continued under the able administration of that good priest until his removal to Melbourne a few weeks ago. In 1880, Father Dalton, with characteristic forethought, purchased the Riverview property for six thousand five hundred pounds (worth now nearly £80,000), and at once started a boarding school with seven scholars, three of whom had to share the same bedroom with Father Dalton, in the old cottage which served for the combined offices of study-hall, refectory, class-rooms, play-room, and dormitory. This was the beginning of St. Ignatius' College Riverview, where to-day stands that triumph of architecture and seat of learning within whose stately hall under the administration of the accomplished and courtly Father P. Keating, S.J., Father Dalton's worthy successor, are trained with affectionate and solicitous care—as one orator lately had it—"classical scholars, future statesmen, poets, artists, engineers, architects, musicians, lawyers, doctors, and over and above all, sincere Christians and true gentlemen." Well might Lord Carrington remark, on his recent visit, that hearing and seeing all that took place at Riverview fairly took his breath away. The fine school at Lavender Bay must also be taken into account in reviewing Father Dalton's works. Such are in brief the results of Father Dalton's labours for the benefit of Catholic progress and Australian education, the value of which it is difficult to estimate. When the fact is borne in mind that on his recent forced retirement through old age, all that fell to his personal share was a pair of crutches, there should be no need to urge upon Australian Catholics the grateful duty of rendering such efficient aid to the "Dalton testimonial" as will speedily accomplish the erection of the Dalton Tower, which will not only form a graceful and enduring memorial of his self-sacrificing labours, but will redound to the honour of the builders as an expression of their appreciation of the many great and good deeds wrought by this Christian veteran, who might with every justice say "*Eregi monumentum perennius.*"

The two Cardinals whose names the Pope reserved are announced to be Monsignor Rotelli, Nuncio at Paris, and Monsignor Piavi, Archbishop of Jerusalem.—*Weekly Register.*

Among decorations just awarded by the French Government is the *Croix d'honneur* given to Sister Josephine Daffins, for fifty-one years of public service in the schools and hospitals in Tunis.

Lord Napier, of Magdala, who is as yet the most distinguished English victim to influenza, was, says the *St. James's Gazette*, a soldier of that good old type of which India has so long been the school. A taste for soldiering is in the blood of every Napier, and the man who carried through the Abyssinian campaign of 1868 so skillfully began soldiering at sixteen. He had passed more than sixty in arms, and he died in harness, for he was still Constable of the Tower and a Field-Marshal. Lord Napier was not a dashing, speech-making General of the modern type, and he was nearly sixty when he received his peerage. Yet in India during the Mutiny, and in the Chinese campaign of 1860, he did work of great importance, and did it with vigour, promptitude, and complete success. He will be the best remembered by his difficult expedition against King Theodore of Abyssinia. That bloodless campaign (not a man was killed and only ten were wounded) was carried through with great rapidity and complete success; and its commander was fitly recompensed not merely for that achievement but for a life spent in the field, by being raised to the peerage. Lord Napier's career proves once again how splendid a training-ground for soldiers we have in India.