

# The Catholic Journal.

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## BLARNEY CASTLE.

An Interesting Sketch of this Famous Place—Concluded.

below and beyond the reach of the pilgrim. Quite recently however, and as a result of a serious accident that befell two adventurous spirits, two iron bars have been placed horizontally, and about six inches apart between the two projecting sides of the battlement. By lying on one's back on these two bars (for an additional difficulty, the face has to be upturned to kiss the stone) and by stretching the head and neck down and out some distance, it is possible to kiss the Blarney stone. But it is still a dangerous undertaking. To lose one's balance on the bars, a fall of 120 feet is inevitable, for strong across though they are there is an ugly yawning space of more than a foot on either side of them.

Of the stone itself, Windle says that a touch of it "creates a smooth and graceful liar of the first magnitude, a sweet and persuasive tongue to win women, full of guile and blandishments and potential flattery." A few extracts from a conversation of rare old Father Prout, "parish priest at Watergrass hill," with Sir Walter Scott, on the history of the Blarney Stone, may not prove uninteresting:

"You behold in this block (the Blarney Stone) the most valuable remnant of Ireland's ancient glory, the most precious lot of her Phoenician inheritance! Possessed of this inheritance she may well be designated

"First Flower of the Earth, First Gem of the Sea," for neither the musical stone of Menon, nor the oracular stone of Delphi, nor the lapidary talisman of the Lydian Gyges, nor the colossal granite shaped into a Sphinx in upper Egypt, nor Stonehenge, nor the pelagic walls of Palestrina, offer so many attractions. The long-sought lapis philosophorum, compared with this jewel, dwindles into insignificance; nay, the savoring fragment which was substituted for the infant Jupiter, when Saturn had the mania for devouring his children; the Luxor obelisk; the treaty-stone of Limerick, with all its historic endearments; the Zedical monument of Denderach, with all its astronomic importance; the Eglon marbles with all their sculptured richness—cannot for a moment stand in competition with the Blarney block. What stone in the world, save this stone, can communicate to the tongue that suavity of speech, and that splendid effrontery, so necessary to get through life? . . . This Palladium of our country was brought here originally by the Phoenician colony that peopled Ireland, and is the best proof of our Eastern parentage. The inhabitants of Tyre and Carthage, who for many years had the Blarney stone in their possession made great use of the privilege, as the proverbial *Punica, Tyrosque dilingues*, testify. Hence the origin of this wondrous fulamen is of the remotest antiquity. Strabo, Diodorus, and Pliny mention the arrival of the Tyrans in Ireland about the year 883 B. C., according to the chronology of Sir Isaac Newton, and the twenty-first year after the sack of Troy."

Sir Walter Scott marvels, as well he might, how this miraculous stone got to Cork. Father Prout explains. "It went to Minorca with a chosen band of Carthaginian adventurers, and came away as their best safeguard on the expedition. They set it on the island, a spot so called from the O'Mahonys, a powerful

been previously so named from the tribe of the O'Neills, its original inhabitants. All these matters, and many more, will one day be revealed in a work on the Round Towers of Ireland. Sir, we built the pyramids before we left Egypt; and those obelisks, sphinxes, and memnonic stones were but emblems of the great relic before you."

Sir Walter shakes his head doubtfully.

"I can convince the most obstinate sceptic, Sir Walter, of the intimate connection that subsisted between us and those islands which the Romans called *insule Bulares*, without knowing the signification of the words they thus applied. That they were so called from the Blarney stone will appear at once to any one accustomed to trace Celtic derivations; the Ulster King-at-Arms, Sir William Betham has shown it by the following scale." (Father Prout traced on the floor of the castle with his cane—*B a L e A - H e s i N a u l e - B l a r n e y*)

"Prodigious!" exclaimed Sir Walter.

"Setting sail from Minorca, the expedition, after encountering a desperate storm, cleared the Pillars of Hercules, and landing in the Cove of Cork, deposited their treasure in the greenest spot and shadiest groves of this beautiful vicinity."

Sir Walter marvels how such a valuable relic was left in quiet possession at Blarney.

"They had sufficient tact (derived from this connection with the stone) to give out that in the storm it had been thrown overboard to relieve the ship in latitude 36° 14' longitude 24°. A search was ordered by the senate of Carthage, and the Mediterranean was dragged without effect.

Sir Walter, it is added, devoutly kissed the wonderful stone, visited the cave where no daylight enters and bats and badgers are forever bred, the lake, etc., and left the castle with his host for Watergrass Hill.

The demesne of Blarney is wide and extensive and contains many pleasant walks in its charming groves. Sir George Colthurst, the present proprietor, has erected a handsome mansion in the demesne, and this led to a curtailment of the freedom of the ordinary Cork pleasure seekers to whom the castle and grounds where at one time a popular rendezvous. A short distance from the castle is Blarney Lake, embosomed in pastoral beauty and rich in legendary lore. Tradition, speaking through the "jarvey," tells you that in this lake there dwells a famous red trout that will not rise to a fly; that enchanted cows, too, have chosen it for their habitation, and have been frequently seen browsing on its banks; that the plate-chest of the last Clancarty who held Blarney lies buried; that three of his race hold the secret which will never be revealed till a McCarthy is again lord of Blarney; and that every year some one of the McCarthys walks from the lake with troubled mind hoping to be addressed. However, as nobody has been courageous enough to address so wonderful a personage, he returns pensively to his watery habitation. In short, "The McCarthy," like "The O'Donoghue" and "The O'Sullivan" throughout the Killarney country, is the subject of score upon score of idyls and legends.

### A Memorial to Cardinal Newman.

LONDON, Sept. 19.—The Council of the Catholic Union has appointed a committee to be presided over by the Duke of Norfolk to promote a memorial to Cardinal Newman. All denominations will be allowed to

## JOHN F. KINNEY.

Nominated by the Democrats for Special County Judge.

Judge John F. Kinney was unanimously nominated Saturday last, by the Democratic county convention, for special county judge to succeed himself. In presenting Judge Kinney's name city attorney Charles B. Ernst said, "This is a proud day for the Democracy. We have met to follow the work started the other day when at the Democratic congressional con-



JOHN F. KINNEY.

vention, the name of the workingman, the farmer, the upright business man and the gallant soldier, Col. Greenleaf, was presented to the electors of the district. The man you have named for sheriff is the most popular man in Monroe county. Your candidate for treasurer has the esteem of everybody and will without doubt be elected. The name which I will present for special county judge is already in your minds. He is a native of this county. His life has been one of integrity. He has always paid strict attention to the rights of others. He has ably fulfilled the duties of the position since he was appointed by Gov. Hill a year ago [enthusiastic applause]. I have the honor to present the name of John F. Kinney."

The following sketch of Judge Kinney was published in the *Journal* of August 9th: "Judge John F. Kinney is one of the most popular young Democrats in Monroe county. He was born in the town of Ogden, Monroe county, June 20, 1860, and is therefore in his 31st year. He attended the Union school in the village and received his collegiate education at St. John's College in Buffalo, where he was a classmate of Hon. Wm. F. Sheehan of that city. Subsequently he studied law at the law department of the Union University at Albany. He was admitted to the bar in June, 1881, after passing time in Hon. Wm. Bowman's law office. Since then he has continually practiced law in Rochester. He has had an extensive practice, especially in the county court, and also before the State Board of Claims. Mr. Kinney is a straight party Democrat. He has never before held office and has never been a candidate for any office.

Mr. Kinney was elected grand vice-president of the C. M. B. A. of the State of New York in 1888, and re-elected in 1890. He is a prominent member of Branch 12, a hard worker in Rochester Council, No. 207, O. B. L., and a member of the Union Club. January 2, 1890, Governor Hill appointed him special county judge to succeed Judge Werner. Since his appointment Judge Kinney has made hosts of friends and an excellent record. Although Monroe is a Republican county he will stand a

## AROUND THE GLOBE.

Rt. Rev. John Pius Leahy, Bishop of Dromore, is dead. He was made bishop in October, 1855.

At the dedication of the soldiers' monument at Winsted, Conn., Sept. 11, Very Rev. Father Leo O. S. F. Payton, of St. Joseph's Church delivered the prayer.

Prussia, Sept. 23.—The German Catholic congress opened here yesterday with an initial attendance of several hundred delegates, representing every State in the Union. Among the prominent delegates are Dr. Ernst Lieber of Germany, Bishop Hard of North Carolina, Bishop Janssen of Illinois and Bishop Rademacher of Tennessee.

The many friends of the Rev. John J. McCoy, of Westboro, Mass., will be pleased to hear that a chaplaincy in the regular army has been offered him. The offer is under advisement. The field of a chaplain's duty is a wide, hard and disagreeable one. The salary is \$1,500, with allowances for rations, horse, fodder and two servants, and the chaplain ranks as first lieutenant without a command.

Bishop Loughlin has erected four hospitals in Brooklyn and is now erecting one in Long Island City. A Brooklyn paper remarks on this: "It is such acts as these which have earned for the Bishop the commendation of all creeds and classes, and the hearty expressions of congratulations that are heard on every side in this year of his golden jubilee."

Father Tolton, the colored priest of Chicago, who is very unassuming in dress and manners, is greatly annoyed by the fact that a Chicago colored man representing himself as a priest is going about dressed in a cassock and adorned with beads, crucifix, etc. The Chicago people have been warned against the impostor.

Cardinal Lavergne opened the Anti-slavery Congress at Paris Sunday with an address. He highly praised the enthusiasm of England in the anti-slavery work, although it was headed by Catholics. He said he did not desire the immediate abolition of slavery, as that would entail starvation of slaves, but man hunting must be immediately suppressed.

Count Carlo Rossini, who played a leading part in the revolutionary movement in Italy in 1848-49, and who was one of the worst enemies of the Church, died recently in Rome. Prior to his death he became reconciled and received the last Sacraments.

Latin ceased to be spoken as a language of the people of Italy about 591. It was taught in England in the seventh century, and speedily became the learned language of the kingdom, and the one in which English literature and law were expressed. Its use in law deeds gave way to the common tongue about the year 1000, was revived by Henry II, and again replaced by English by Henry III.

The following question was some months ago proposed to the Sacred Congregation of the penitentiary: "A penitent declares that he believes that the fire of hell is not real, but metaphorical; that is, the pains of hell, whatever they may be, are called fire simply because fire causes the most intense pain, and is therefore the most vivid image of the terrible punishments of hell. May he be allowed to hold this opinion?" The reply of the Sacred Penitentiary—dated April 30 of the present year—was, as usual, brief and pointed: "Such a penitent should be considered as a heretic."

## IRISH NEWS.

Patrick Hannon and wife with their children, were recently evicted from their house and acre of land at Clongorey, as was also the national teacher of Clongorey, Mr. McGrath. The teachers of Clongorey occupied a portion of the house for many years.

An immense public demonstration took place in Dundalk under the auspices of the political prisoners' Amnesty Committee, on Sunday, September 14th. Vigorous speeches were delivered against the brutal treatment of the prisoners in the jails.

An Athy correspondent writes: "Notices of evictions of the sons of Murquies of Landowne against the sons of his Luggacurren tenants have been served on the Athy Board of Guardians."

Michael Griffin, who was for four years clerk and secretary of the Fenian Club, was arrested on September 1st, in St. Joseph's Convent, near that city. He was a well-known and very respected by clergy and laity.

Lord Lansdowne's son, Mr. Herbert, with extensive shooting and fishing rights in the county of Wick, is let to Gen. Grogan. The *London Leader* says: "The Lansdownes have been pinched somewhere where they parts so from the traditional house. It looks as if the family were not so invulnerable as some of the powers of the Empire seem to be at one time supposed to be."

There were some interesting scenes at the Branch of the National League, Sunday, August 25th. Edward Cooney, president, occupied the chair. Resolved: "That we condemn in the strongest and most emphatic manner the conduct of certain persons in this parish who are continually stirring and communicating with grangers in the neighborhood, and we call on those persons to withdraw." "Honesty is the best policy."

The Belfast correspondent of the *Central News* says that the government have decided in a recent memorial recently presented to Lord Lieutenant by the Catholics of the city, to establish a police force on the Queen's Island, near Belfast, Ireland, and Wolfe's shipyard, working. The memorial was presented on account of a recent riotous attack which was prompted by religious prejudices.

September 23, a solemn anniversary service was held in St. Mary's Cathedral in Derry to commemorate the late Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, Bishop of the diocese of Derry. The ceremony consisted of Solemn Office for the Dead, Pontifical High Mass, and a sermon. The Most Rev. Dr. Kelly's eulogy was the celebrant of the service, assisted by Rev. J. Donnelly, Rev. Hugh McManis, Rev. Rev. Haugan (Sub-deacon) and Rev. Professor O'Brien (Master of Ceremonies).

Edward O'Malley died a few days ago at Clare Island at the advanced age of 83 years. Edward O'Malley's brother who is still living, has some others now dead, in the decisive blow that put an ever to proselytism in the world. Though the people were starved, would have nothing from proselytism. He was the foremost champion of abolition of this abominable system of bribery.

The Forty Hours' Devotion in the blessed Sacrament was held at St. Joseph's Church, Sunday, September 23rd, and closed with a grand procession. There was a large attendance.