

## A FAMOUS TOWN.

Edmund D. Whelan Writes of the Town of New Ross and Its Ancient Founders.

Little of the Old Wall Still Remains.

NEW ROSS, COUNTY WEXFORD, IRELAND.

I made a pleasant call on J. E. Galavan, Esq., J.P., chairman of the New Ross Harbor Commissioners, a gentleman who is as courteous as he is energetic, for he gives a good deal of employment in the town. He is a timber merchant, a shipper, and has a steamship mill. Amongst New Ross' other industries are Messrs. Roche's mauling establishment and Jones' tannery. With a nice port and good markets it is then a fairly prosperous town—from an Irish standpoint. I found its people as quick, spirited, courteous and obliging as in any town I have come across—in fact, I think, ahead of some in this respect. But New Ross' prosperity of today is according to the most reliable account, only a myth compared to its standing of four or five hundred years ago, when it was one of the most important ports in these islands, and carried on a large trade with Spain, Holland and Great Britain. It is stated that the walls were as extensive as those of London in the fourteenth century, and that its revenue was equal to that of Dublin, Cork, and Waterford combined. It was in fact a rich store-house, which stimulated the avarice of war-like chiefs who came and looted the town frequently, until its citizens thought it best to surround themselves with a strong wall to protect their belongings. Amongst those depredatory lords, who were in the habit of sacking New Ross, are mentioned Maurice Fitzmaurice, Chief of the Geraldines, and Walter de Burgo, Earl of Ulster. According to some authorities the walls were first built in 1265. There is little of the ancient wall remaining, save a small patch in the vicinity of what is called the "Three Bullet Gate"—the latter having entirely disappeared, but its name remains. It got its name, it appears from the circumstances that when Cromwell arrived here on an unfriendly visit he fired only three cannon balls at it, when the town surrendered. It had Fair Gate, Bishop's Gate and Ladies' Gate—the latter was named in compliment to the women, who bravely helped to build the wall. There is only a mere fragment of one gate left today, on the hill approaching the Good Shepherd's Convent. The others were all torn down some years ago (a piece of unpardonable vandalism) by anti-Irish town commissioners. But they have regretted since, I heard, the removal of those beautiful remnants of other days. The building of the walls of Ross was made famous by a poem, written by Brian Michael in 1308, in which the fair sex comes in for the lion's share of the praise. After the walls were built they were guarded by over 4,000 soldiers. New Ross had scores of charters granted to it by various kings back as far as 1230, and it boasted of as many sovereigns or mayors. The seal of the corporation represents an elk and a stag bound in full chase across a bridge, and its present mace is a beautifully carved piece of solid silver, the gift of the Earl of Anglesey to New Ross in 1838. It had a much older mace for the possession of which itself and the Waterford boys once fought a battle on the lovely sweet banks of the Suir. But tradition says that the Wexford boys gained the victory. So about its sovereigns, its walls, its battles, and the rest a book might be written. The writer was shown some of these relics by the kind, obliging town clerk, Mr. J. Tobin, for which and other kindnesses I am indebted.

Returning to the hotel amid sunshine and showers, after exploring old walls and ruined abbeys, it was no offense to find ready one of those commercial diners, so well known in Irish hotels, and I was privileged to take "pot luck" amongst the Irish drummers—as jolly and entertaining

as a lot as one could well meet. The topics of the day were gone over, while soup, fish, and roast beef were discussed. After this one might throw himself into an easy-chair to rest, and, if he choose, take up one of the local histories, several of which were kindly loaned me by gentlemen of the town. In these he will read much that is wonderful and interesting about the past, but the story that is unwritten and lost to the world might fill volumes. I had a notion somehow, before I came this way, that New Ross was quite a modern town. In place of that I found it was an ancient place that has many attractions for the antiquarian and historian as well as for the lover of natural beauty. We learn that St. Aban, son of Cormack, King of Leinster, founded here in the early part of the sixth century a monastery and seat of learning. The place was then called Ros-mac-Truinn—that is the wooded promontory of Truinn. That the English made it a Pale town in the twelfth century, when, according to Camden, the present town was founded by Isabel, daughter of Strongbow and granddaughter of Dermot MacMurrough, the ill-fated, traitorous king of Leinster, together with her husband, William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke. The first wooden bridge across the Barrow, at Ross, was built by Earl Marshal, who left his seal to the town. It is said that the fair Isabel, after taking up her abode here, cherished the hope of one day wielding the sceptre of her grandfather, King Dermot, who basely sold his country to the wily Anglo-Normans. But, alas! lovely Isabel was disappointed! Later on a chief arose in the person of Art MacMurrough, who in a great measure restored the patriotic name of his clan. He fought the English successfully from his sixteenth to his sixteenth year, 1373 to 1417, and at Kells, county Kilkenny, he gave a signal overthrow to the troops of Richard II., on that monarch's second expedition to Ireland, 1398. This renowned chief together with his chief, Brehan O'Doran, it is said, were poisoned at New Ross in 1417, where his death was bewailed by the O'Byrnes, O'Tooles and the rest of his clan and lamented in song and story. Art MacMurrough was interred at St. Mullins, the burial place of the O'Kavanaghs to the present day. Well, Dermot MacMurrough, Strongbow, Eva, and the rest of the "chiefs and ladies bright" are gone, but the stay of their deeds of war, conquest and love are transmitted in history and romance, and for ever associated with the beauties of the Nore, the Suir and the Barrow.

EDMUND D. WHELAN

Exit the Blue Jacket.

A proportion of the blue jackets of any full-rigged ship were necessarily athletes. The "upper yardmen" in a line of battle ship or a frigate were exceptional men in this way, and much more so, perhaps just about the time that sail power was receiving its death warrant than ever before. These young men had to race aloft to nearly the highest points, at top speed eight or ten times a week when the ship was in harbor, to keep their heads and maintain their breath while holding on by "their eyelids," as the phrase goes, and manipulating with a careful and measured order of action the various and intricate arrangements for "crossing" or "sailing down" the royal and top-gallant yards. It was all done at full speed, for it was universally held that the upper yardmen gave a character to the whole ship; and that one which was foremost in this exercise was ever considered the smartest ship in the fleet. The upper yardmen were always the coming men. They had the most opportunities for distinguishing themselves, were the best known, and were most under the eye of the authorities. They developed great muscular power in chest, shoulders and arms. Their lower extremities suffered, and one always knew the men who had been upper yardmen by their tadpole-like appearance when they were bathing.

But in the modern steam line-of-battle ship and frigates these extremely athletic specimens formed a very small minority of the ship's company, and none of them could lose his turn at being upper yardmen so long as the ship's reputation depended on the speed with which the upper yards were crossed and sent down. In harbor the rest of the blue jackets had the handling of yards and sails for exercise once or twice a week, but at sea the use of sails for propulsion grew less and less important, and most of the work aloft was more of an exercise and less of a necessity.

## Legend of the Sun's Beads.

There was a very earnest and devout nun, who had a great love for the Mother of God, and whose every spare moment was given to the recital of the Rosary.

She was, however, so busily occupied in the service of the community that it was often a difficult matter to complete her work and her prayers in the day, so sometimes she had to rise in the night to fulfill some duty. One night she was winnowing flour, and as she worked in solitude and silence, the thought came into her mind that she might say her Rosary at the same time. So she worked at her flour with one hand as she passed the beads through the other, and thus employed, the hours sped rapidly away.

At last, happening to cast her eyes on the table where the beads rested, she saw many lovely roses lying there. For every Ave she had said there was a white rose, for every Father Moster a red one, and yet, though the flowers were plainly to be seen, the humble nun could scarcely believe such a wonderful thing could happen to her. So she went on with her prayers; but, watching, she saw that for each one which fell from her lips a fresh rose appeared on the table. She could not doubt any longer the favor which had been granted her, although she resolved to conceal it from her sisters, through humility.

But such was not God's will, for He, who loves to listen to every prayer which is offered through Mary Immaculate, caused the beads of this pious nun to change into garlands of fragrant roses, even when she prayed in public, so that thus all might see the reward of devotion to her whom He chose for His Mother.

## SOME AUSTRALIAN PESTS.

Rabbit Catchers Who Earn as High as \$75 a Week.

The average annual cost of the rabbit in Australia is computed at \$3,500,000. Until rabbit proof fencing was adopted, thus checking further invasions of the pest, it was not uncommon to see 100 rabbits employed on a single property, whose working average was from 300 to 400 rabbits a day. As they received five shillings (British) a hundred from the station owner and were also able to sell the skins at eight shillings a hundred their profession was a lucrative one. Seventy-five dollars a week was not an unusual wage and many an unfortunate squatter looked with envy upon his rabbiters, who were heaping up modest fortunes, while he himself was slowly being eaten out of house and home.

Another pest that the squatters have to contend against is the foxes. Some years ago two of these were imported from England and they have so multiplied that they devour immense numbers of sheep and worry others to death.

The Scotch thistle is still another of Australian pests that is especially objectionable to the farmer, while the English watercress, which grows in Australia to a length of a dozen feet, is blocking up watercourses.

## Baked Better than Boiled.

It is frequently asked why some hams taste so much better than others. This would not be the case if they were baked, and not boiled until all the sweetness was extracted, which is generally done in the majority of cases where they are found tasteless and discolored. Of course a great deal depends upon the quality of the ham, and none but the best sugar cured should be selected. Here is a good rule for their treatment:

Make a stiff paste of flour and water, with which completely cover the ham. Then place it in a bake pan containing a little water, with which it must be occasionally basted. It will require about four or five hours to bake a ham of medium size in a moderate oven. The cook must, of course, use her judgment by testing it occasionally with a fork. At the expiration of that time remove the ham, and the entire top can be peeled off like a sheet of leather, leaving only the fat exposed, which must be well covered with bread crumbs. Return to the oven long enough to brown; then set aside until cool before using, as it is twice as easy to cut in tempting thin slices, besides lasting as long again. Always begin in the center and you will do well.

Wellington on the Defeat at Agny.

Next morning Wellington was conversing with General Bovies when a staff officer drew up, his horse decked with foam, and whispered the news of Agny. Without a change of countenance, the commander said to his companion: "Old Blucher has had a good licking, and gone back to Wavre, eighteen miles. As he has gone back, we must go, too. I suppose in England they will say we have been licked. I can't help it; as they have gone back, we must go, too."—Century.

## CONFIRMATION.

Bishop McQuaid Confirms a Large Class at Mt. Morris.

One of the most impressive and edifying church ceremonies ever witnessed in Mt. Morris took place at St. Patrick's church last Sunday afternoon, the occasion being the confirmation exercises conducted by Rt. Rev. Bishop McQuaid, assisted by Rev. Dr. Meehan of Rochester, and Fathers Hickey of Genesee, and Sullivan of Perry. The esteemed pastor, Father Day, has labored zealously for the past year preparing a class of 100 boys and girls to receive confirmation, and the earnest Christian spirit manifested by the children and their parents demonstrates the fact that the pastor has won and received the hearty support and co-operation of a harmonious and united congregation. It is apparent that such a manifestation brings joy to the hearts of the people and must be gratifying to the pastor and the bishop.

The church was crowded to its utmost capacity, many being obliged to stand in the aisle during the entire ceremony. As the confirmation class entered the front door and reverently marched up the center aisle, led by the boys, neatly dressed in black clothes, wearing white gloves and white ties, and each carrying a wax candle, they presented a very pretty appearance, and were followed by the girls neatly attired in white dresses, white shoes and long white veils. Their appearance and Christian demeanor, as they gracefully took their seats in the front pews, brought happiness to the hearts of their parents, as was evident from the expressions of admiration that seemed to illumine the faces of the entire congregation.

As the bishop entered the sanctuary preceded by the acolytes and accompanied by his assistants, all the electric lights were turned on simultaneously, the organ pealed forth in solemn tones, and a marked feeling of solemnity and reverence pervaded the entire congregation. The altar profusely and tastefully decorated with many wax candles which shone forth with a soft, subdued light, rendered the scene a grand inspiration. When the bishop addressed the confirmation class and explained the full import of the sacrament they were about to receive, and impressed upon their minds the necessity of remaining true to the teachings of their church, if they wished to be saved and go through life honorable members of society, it was evident, from the actions of the children, that the bishop, by his vigorous appeal, delivered in a kind, fatherly manner, touched their hearts.

When he called upon them to stand up and raise their right hand and repeat after him a solemn pledge to abstain from the use of intoxicating drinks until of age, every child promptly answered.

The bishop, notwithstanding his advanced years, sustained his reputation as a vigorous and effective orator, and charmed his hearers with the impressiveness and kindness of his remarks. He briefly referred to the dispensations in the parish and deplored the causes that had produced them. He expressed a hope that all members of the parish would unite in the support of their pastor, whom he had sent to them, and look to him for spiritual aid and guidance.

The bishop's presence, here has had a beneficial effect, the kindly diplomatic tenor of his remarks exhibiting the generous, forgiving disposition of a vigilant, far-seeing ecclesiastic. The bishop, owing to a sudden attack of illness, was unable to reach here Saturday night, and it was feared the exercises would have to be postponed; but rather than disappoint the children the bishop endangered his health by leaving a sick bed Sunday, and taking the cars as far as Avon, from which place he came by carriage to Mt. Morris, a drive of 17 miles, and arrived here in time to have the confirmation at 5 in the afternoon.

Father Day has reason to feel proud and happy, as the class was the largest, and best drilled that has been turned out in a number of years, and also of the hearty support and co-operation of the members of the congregation and parents of the children.

Ladies' Umbrellas at \$2.00.

Examine the coverings; take note of the stylish handles; read the written guarantee. Likely's, 155 East Main and 98 State.

When you are in need of job printing of any kind have your order at the CATHOLIC JOURNAL office, 324½ East Main street.

## CATHOLIC SOCIETIES.

What is Transpiring in the Diocese of Buffalo—Current Calendar.

### NEW YORK GRAND COUNCIL.

Report of Finance Committee, Quarterly Meeting Oct. 1, 1896.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Oct. 1, 1896.

To the President and Members of the Grand Council of the New York State Grand Council of the C. M. B. A.

GENTLEMEN: We, the undersigned Committee on Finance and Mileage, hereby certify that we have made a careful examination of the books, accounts and vouchers of the Grand Secretary, Joseph Casarone, and Grand Treasurer, John L. Schwarz, for the quarter ending Oct. 1, 1896, and find them correct, and that they agree in every particular.

We have visited the Bank of Homerville and find the balance reported by the Grand Secretary correct. We also visited the Buffalo Loan Trust and Safe Deposit Company and the various banks of deposit, and find the balances as reported by the Grand Secretary correct.

We also find the reserve fund securities intact and on deposit with said Trust company. We beg leave to submit the following statement for your consideration:

REVENUE FUND.

Amount collected and disbursed during quarter, \$10,539.53. Remitted by the Grand Secretary to the Supreme R-Board:

Assessments Nov. 10 and 11: July 21, \$3,000.00; July 30, \$4,000.00; Aug. 4, \$1,500.00; Aug. 5, \$4,500.00; Aug. 7, \$5,000.00; Aug. 8, \$4,500.00; Aug. 10, \$6,000.00; Aug. 17, \$4,500.75.

Assessments Nov. 12 and 13: Aug. 26, \$2,000.00; Aug. 31, \$1,000.00; Sept. 5, \$5,000.00; Sept. 9, \$1,000.00; Sept. 11, \$3,000.00; Sept. 15, \$5,000.00.

Assessment No. 14: Sept. 10, \$2,000.00; Sept. 18, \$1,000.00; Sept. 19, \$5,000.00; Sept. 21, \$1,000.00; Sept. 22, \$1,000.00; Sept. 29, \$3,500.00.

GENERAL FUND.

On hand, last report, \$1,927.52. Received during quarter, 1,927.52.

Total, \$3,855.04.

Disbursed on General Fund orders, \$1,927.52.

Balance on hand, \$1,927.52.

Invested as follows: Bond and mortgage, \$500.00. Cash balance, \$1,427.52.

Total, \$1,927.52.

AMOUNT OF FUND LAST REPORT, \$141,797.52. Added from 50¢ of assets, 4,737.50. Total, on securities, 75.00.

Total amount, this date, \$146,610.02.

Invested as follows: Bond and mortgage, \$54,034.75. Cash on deposits, \$1,975.25.

Cash balances deposited as follows: Buffalo Loan Trust and Safe Deposit Co., \$20,000.00. Erie County Savings Bank, \$2,837.44. Buffalo Savings Bank, \$2,837.44. Western Savings Bank, \$2,837.44. German-American Bank, \$4,425.62. Third National Bank of Buffalo, \$4,000.00. Onondaga Co. Savings Bank, \$1,500.00. Syracuse Savings Bank, \$1,500.00.

Total, \$51,975.25.

Amount collected and deposited in the Bank of Homerville, \$24.25.

THOS. F. DELANEY, C. J. FITZPATRICK, P. J. LEE.

T. J. Neighin was elected to the office of recording secretary of Branch 189 in place of Bro. John Barnes, who was obliged to give up the secretaryship on account of his increased duties in business. Bro. George Poorman was elected to the office of assistant secretary in place of Bro. Neighin who was elected to the office of recording secretary.

The new Branch, 188, was visited by a committee from the Central Council at their meeting Wednesday evening. The business was conducted in strict accordance with the constitution, and considering that Branch 188 has just been organized and its officers are all new, the manner in which they conducted the meeting was very creditable, indeed.

The committee from the council spoke of several important matters among which was the necessity of a central council and the good work that can be done by having a central body but in order to accomplish the benefits desired, it is necessary for all the branches to take a lively interest in the work of the council and give that body their earnest support. The remarks of the committee were heartily received by the members. Expression of thanks to the committee as well as to all present was given by Rev. Father Van Ness, the spiritual adviser of Branch 188 for their earnest work in so good a cause, and he assured the Branch that anything that he could do to promote the interest of the organization would only be a pleasure to him. Remarks were also made by the president and other officers, and with the good will that is so much in evidence in Branch 188, it is but fair to say that it soon will be one of the foremost branches of the city.

The regular meeting of the Buffalo Branch of the C. M. B. A. will be held next Wednesday evening. A large number of members are expected to attend the ceremony of Nov. 2, 1896, highest degree will be conferred about 60 new members.

The Hibernian Bids gave an reception at their hall last evening. The arrangement was made by Capt. J. E. Burke, T. P. Loughney, Wm. Malloy, J. J. Buckley, F. Deson, and Malloy.

The third annual ball of the A. O. H. will be held at the corner of Warner and Wolf streets, on evening, Nov. 2, 1896.

C. S. B. A. Monday—52, 1st, 23.

C. S. B. A. Wednesday—44, 24. Thursday—15.

A. O. H. Monday—8. Tuesday—5. Wednesday—4.

D. O. H. Tuesday—4. Wednesday—4.

COMMITTEE REPORT.

Every man is the master of his own soul, and therein he is free. He is not bound by the laws of men, but by the laws of God.

There are many who are men and women, and they are not bound by the laws of men, but by the laws of God.

When we are in the presence of God, we are not bound by the laws of men, but by the laws of God.

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