LATEST TIDINGS

Interesting Events From the Isle So Green.

A BRIEW REVIEW FROM OUR FRIENDS.

SOME TIMELY TOPICS OF INTEREST TO IRISH READERS.

LEINSTER.

(By our Special Correspondent.)

DUBLIN.

The London Correspondent of the Dublin "Freeman's Journal," telegraphing under date of March 26th, says. "I very much regret to learn that Mr Frank Hugh O'Donnell was most severely ingured by a gas explosion last evening. Mr. O'Donnell entered his rooms, at Charing Cross Mansions about 10p.m., and, on lighting a match a terrific explosion ensued. It would appear that, owing to an escape, the rooms were charged with gas, which exploded when Mr. O'Donnell struck a light. He was removed to Charing Cross Hospital in a very critical condition, and the latest report is that his life is seriously endangered."

The Dublin papers state that a grant of £150 has been made, out of the "Royal Bounty Fund," to Mrs. Fox and Mrs. Brush, the two survlying daughters of William Carleton, the Irish novelist.

On March 24th, a schoolboy named George Graham Taaffe, ager 10 years, and residing at 1) Alma road, Monkstown, died from the effects of having accidentally eaten a portion of a rat-poison cake. The deceased was a day-pupil at Avoca School, Carysfort avenue, Blackrock. On the previous morning, another pupil named Cyrus Hardman, of 10 Waltham terrace, Blackrock, brought some cake in his coat-pocket to the school, and also a portion of the rat-poison cake, which strongly resembled oat-cake. It became known amongst the boys that Hardman had got some "sweet cake," and the deceased, during luncheon hour, went to where Hardman's coat was hanging, and took a portion of the sweet cake, and also a portion of the other cake, not suspecting that it was poisonous. He ate a portion of the latter and shared it with three other boys. The four boys were taken suddenly ill, and were allowed to go home. Young Taaffe died about 2 o'clock next morning. The others are progressing favorably.

The death is announced of Patrick McDermott, retired, Inspector of the Dublin Metropolitan Police, who died aged 80 years, at the residence of his son, Ivy House, Richmond road, Fairview, Dublin. The deceased was one of the first members of the original force, having been appointed in 1837.

Circulars were forwarded to all the clergy and Members of Parliament in Ireland, inviting their attendance at the Evited Tenants' Convention Conference.

At the regular meeting of the Guardians of the North Dublin Union, in the board-room of the Workhouse, North Brunswick street, Mr. John Carolan, J. P., chairman, presiding, an application was received, on behalf of 26 ladies residing in Howth, who stated that they wished to be rated and enrolled as voters in respect of premises, No. 1 Edmond Villas Howth. The rate-collector had reported that the premises were closed when he called to inspect them, and tnat the description of them given in the rate books—"Young Men's Christian Association"—was a misnomer. It was stated, however, that the applicants were members of the Young Women's Christian Association, and that they did not reside in the premises, but held meetings there occasionally. The application was rejected, by 17 votes to 5. At the same meeting it was resolved to appoint in the Workhouse Hospital, six additional Nuns, whose duties will be as follows: Two to superintend the cookery, two to superintend the distribution of the food on the female side, and two on the male side.

During the early hours of the morning of 24th, a sad drowning accident, by which three lives were lost, occurred in Kingstown harbor. Four officers of the war-ship Jason, which is at present in the harbor, had arrived from Dublin by the last train, and left Victoria Wharf for their ship, in a small boat, rowed by two brothers namer James and Christopher Doyle, of Cunningham's Court, Kingstown. The officers were Lieut. Alfred A. Ellison, engineer; George G. Knight, assistant engineer; H. W. L. Cox, and Surgeon Thomas Gibbons. When about midway across the harbor, in the direction of the Jason, the boat capsized, and the occupants were thrown into the water. Their cries were heard, and two boats were launched from the gunboat and one by the coast-guards. All the officers were picked up, but neither of the boatmen. The medical officer on board the Jason did all that was possible for the rescued; but Surgeon Gibbons expired soon after being taken on board. The two boatmen were drowned. Surgeon Gibbons was a native of Castlebar, county Mayo, wither his remains were forwarded for interment.

It is proposed that the Army manoeuvres in Ireland this year shall be held in the country between Dublin and the Curragh of Kildare, after the usual concentration of troops at the Curragh for summer drill. The second week in August is named as the time for the manoeuvers, which will last about six days, and conclude with a "grand parade and march-past" in the Phoenix Park.

The Irish Emigration Statistics for 1896 have been issued by the English Registrar-General; and though they show a welcome falling off, as compared with the previous year, they are still depressing reading, having regard to the previous and long-continued depletion of the population of the country. We learn from the report that 38,995 persons—natives of Ireland—left the country in 1896; and of these 3,842, or 3.2 per 1,000 of the population of the province in 1891, were from Leinster, 15,485, or 13.2 per 1,000, from Munster; 7,434, or 4.6 per 1,000, from Ulster, and 12,234, or 16.9 per 1,000, from Connaught the total number being equal to 8.3 per 1,000 of the population of Ireland in 1891, the last period of an estimated census.

On the morning of March 29th Miss Ann Bingham, aged 70 years, of 17 Windsor Terrace, Kingstown, was burned to death, under very sad circumstances. It appears that the old lady, who claimed relationship to some of the best Irish families, lived alone for many years past, and was in the habit of rising until advanced hours On the morning indicated, her next neighbor, Mr. Charles Dowd, detecting a smell of fire, notified the police, and on an entrance to the premises being effected, Miss Bingham was found lying on the floor of the sitting-room, where the fire originated, partly dressed and unconscious The old lady was taken at once to St Michael's Hospital, where Dr. McKenna, pronounced life extinct.

WICKLOW.

Three weeks ago, a meeting was held at Murphy's Hotel, Round wood, in connection with the proposition to start a tram or railway communication from Bray to Greystones, Glen of the Downs, Kilpedder, Roundwood, and Glendalough districts. The Rev. W. Stokes presided, and a large number of influential residents of the district were present. Mr. W H. Wynne, J. P., made some valuable suggestions as to the possibilities, cost, etc., of the proposed line. A committee was appointed to wait on the directors of the Dublin, Wicklow and Wexford Railway Company, to enlist their co-operation.

KILDARE.

On March 28th, a terrible murder occurred near Killenagh, a small village situated in the center of the Bog of Allen. On that date, the body of a man named Samuel Bell was found, lying on the bank of the Grand Canal, his head mutilated, one of his eyes completely gouged out, and the lower portion of his face beaten out of shape The country in which the crime was committed is a wild, desolate region, mostly inhabited by turf-cutters, who depend largely upon help from their relatives i. America and Australia to meet the demands of the landlords. Bell, the murdered man, lived in a wretched hovel on the bank of the canal, depending largely upon his son, who is an Army Reserve man, for support. A man named Joseph Balfe, who spent a portion of the evening with the deceased, and who went to the spot where the body lay after its discovery, was the first to go to the barracks and report the matter to the police, who afterwards placed him under arrest. The position and appearance of the dead body point to the fact that he lost his life in a struggle. The case is under investigation by the Coroner.

CARLOW.

Previous to the opening of the Assizes for Carlow, the County Grand Jury adopted the following resolutions "That we, the Grand Jury of the County of Carlow, consider that the report of the Royal Commission on the financial relations the early attention of her Majesty's government, in order that the exact amount of the overtaxation disclosed by the report may be ascertained, and measures of relief recommended to Parliament," and; further, "that we respectfully demand that her Majesty's government will take immediate steps to extend to Ireland the provinces of the Agricultural Rates Act of 1896, and thus strive to relieve the agricultural depression in Ireland in the same manner and to the same exter as the provisions of that act have relieved the occupiers of agricultural lands in England, Scotland, and Wales."

KILKENNY.

The Assizes for Kilkenny City were opened, on March 25th, by Justice Johnson, accompanied by the Mayor and the High Sheriff, Dr. J. White, J. P. There being no prisoners for trial, the Judge was presented with a pair of white gloves, by the High Sheriff, who stated that it was the second time in succession that he had had a similar pleasing duty to perform; to which the Judge responded that he also had had a similar experience in two Assize circuits, in Kilkenny, and he hoped it would not be the last.

In the Record Court, on March 16th, the case of Anne Cody vs. Michael Carroll, for £500 damages for breach of promise of marriage, was heard. The parties reside near Urlingford. The case was fully gone into and at the close of the testimony the Judge said he could not let the case go to the jury on the ground that no corroboration of the promise was forthcoming. The case was therefore, put out of court.

WEXFORD.

We regret to announce the rather sudden demise of Mr. Richard Keating, of Ormonde Road, Kilkenny, which sad event occurred on the 19 of March, in the 63d year of his age. The deceased belonged to an old and much respected family, and one of the most expressive tokens of public sympathy that could be forthcoming was the immense number of people who followed his remains to their last resting place in St. Patrick's cemetery.

In Wexford on March 23, Mr William Harvey, a well known and respected citizen passed away at his residence, South Main street, after a long illness. Mr. Harvey for many years was the leading victualler of the town, and during his long and extensive business career won universal respect and confidence by his thorough rectitude and kindly disposition. For a long time past he has been confined to his residence by frail health, and had reached his 75th year at the time of his death. The funeral cortege, to St. Iberius Cemetery was both large and respectable.

Miss Maria Kinsella, daughter of Mr. Kinsella, Tomadilly, was recently received into the Order of Mercy, in the beautiful church attached to the convent in Wexford, taking for her name in religion, Sister Mary Claude de la Colombiere, and at the same time Miss Mullins, of Rossmore, County Carlow, as lay sister, received the white veil, and took for her name Sister Juliana. The ceremony was performed by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Browne, assisted by the Rev. N T. Sheridan, President of St. Peter's College. A large number of friends, both clerical and lay, were present.

One week ago last Monday, two agricultural tenants on the Templemore estate, in South Wexford, were evicted from their holdings—The one, Mrs. Ellen Foran, of Dunbrody, owed six years' rent, and the other, William Macnamara owed three years' rent Both held large farms The evictions were peaceably carried out.

QUEEN'S COUNTY.

On the morning of a recent date, some twenty prisoners from Mountjoy prison were removed to the Kingsbridge terminus for conveyance to the auxiliary convict establishment at Maryborough Their removal was carried out in the Dublin police vans which were strongly guarded by mounted Constabulary with drawn swords, followed by several cars containing armed constables who accompanied them from Kingsbridge to their destination. The passage of the vans and their large escort through the streets caused no little excitement and surprise the identity of the prisoners was not allowed to transpire.

KING'S COUNTY.

On March 27, in Clara, the new marble statue of St. Francis of Assisi presented to the Franciscan Society by its past pupils and friends, was unveiled in the grounds of that institution. The convent is a teaching institution, and is occupied by the Minor Franciscan Brotherhood. A goodly gathering from Clara and other towns and the neighboring parishes witnessed the ceremony.

Last week one of the most extraordinary and affecting spectacles that has been withessed, even at Irish evictions, took place in the townland of Derrylahan, near Mountholus. There resided in the townland a poor old man named Thomas Digan, who occupied a small holding on the estate of Mr. Wm. O'Connor Morris, Q. C., County Court Judge, whose family seat, at Gurtnamona, is but a short distance away. An ejectment decree was obtained against the tenant at the January Sessions of the present year; and in persuance of this he was about to be put out on the road. On the sheriff's party arriving at the dark and dirty hovel in which Digan and his aged wife have spent their days, it was found that the old man was prostrated with mortal illness, and the Sheriff's officers hesitated before carrying out the eviction. The state of affairs being communicated to Judge Morris who had arrived on the scene, he instructed the bailiff to go home and entering the gloomy cabin, spoke words of kindness to the dying man in addition to leaving a sum of money with Mrs. Digan, before leaving to obtain some necessaries for her husband. The old man is said to be beyond recovery and his death at farthest but a matter of a few days.

WESTMEATH.

An occurrence of a startling and sensational nature took place on the town land of Ballykilroe, near Ballinagore, recently. There resided at the place mentioned a farmer named John Robinson, who was in comfortable circumstances, but who had been on bad terms with his wife for some time past owing, it is alleged, to the woman's intemperate habits. On the evening in question she proceeded to the village of Ballinagore, and was not seen again until her body was found a short distance from the house lying in a pool of blood which came from a large hole in the side of her head. The police removed her to her house and on her statement arrested her husband who has been removed to the Tullamore jail, pending further developments. Robinson is a man in middle life and the father of a large family.

LONGFORD.

Two men named John Reilly, from near Longford County Meath and William Hill, from Carrickedmond County Longford, were arrested in Mullingar, recently, on the charge of cattle stealing. Reilly had sold seven large bullocks to a dealer named Rafferty, in the market, when the police took him into custody. The animals were identified as belonging to Mr. Baily, Athboy, County Meath. Hill was arrested for having stolen six calves, which he also sold, from a farmer in the County Longford.

MUNSTER.

CORK.

At the opening of the Cork Assizes, on March 26, Justice Meath and William the County Cork Grand Jury on what he termed "the improved condition of the district." He regretted, however, that intimidation, though diminished still existed to some considerable extent, as was shown by the fact that a hundred and fifty-five evicted farms were, not withstanding the greed of the agricultural classes to acquire land, in spite of all obstacles, still unlet. The number was less than it had been, but the diminution, he said, was less attributable to decreased intimidation than to arrangements made by one estate for the restoration of a number of evicted tenants.

Recently in Fermoy, a dreadful and fatal fire occurred on Barrick Hill, by which the licensed premises of Mr. Lawrence O'Donnell were totally destroyed, and Mr. H. R. Lewis, proprietor of a touring dramatic company, who was lodging in the house, was burned to death. The fire was discovered at three o'clock, and is supposed to have originated from the shop. The inmates having been aroused Mr. Lewis, after saving the lives of two ladies through the second-story windows, went back to get his money, amounting, it is said, to £200, and lost his life in the attempt. The house itself was insured, but neither stock nor furniture was covered by insurance.

Another explosion occurred, on March 20th, on board No. 7 launch, belonging to the war-ship Howe, at present stationed at Queenstown. While the lunch was at the East Ferry, the explosion took place, through the door of the boiler giving out, and injured one of the men, Stoker Wilson, seriously. The injured man was removed to the Royal Naval Hospital at Haulbowline, where his injuries were attended to.

On Sunday, March 21st, a largely attended meeting was held at Ballymacoda, in connection with the taking of a farm in the locality, from which a farmer, named Philip O'Neill was evicted A resolution was passed denouncing the grabbing of the farm, and expressing sympathy with certain persons who were sent to jail for alleged interference with the family at present in occupation. The action of the magistrates on the occasion was also severely criticised.

On March 22nd, a member of the small Irish colony in Paris, Mr. Valentine McSwiney, the banker, passed away. The deceased originally came from Cork, and had been in Paris for the past thirty-five years. He began his financial career as a clerk in the Bank of France, and soon raised himself by his talents to an influential position, finally founding a bank of his own, which has a solid reputation. The son of the deceased, M. Patrick McSwiney de Mashanablass, is one of the Chamberlains to Pope Leo XIII. Madam McSwiney, the widow, was known, before her marriage, as the Countess Komarska.

The firm of E Ryan & Co., which conducts the Soap Works, Cork, has been converted into a Limited Liability Company, and the shares were offered for public subscription on March 26th

In Cork, on March 24th, Coroner Horgan held an inquest, in the County jail, on the body of a man named Hartnet, who had died in that institution, on the 15th, the date of the expiration of his term of eight months, to which he was sentenced for false pretences Mr Horgan strongly commented on the statement that was alleged to have been made by the Governor, to the effect that it was not necessary to hold an inquest.

KERRY.

A farmer named Rourke residing at Curro, in the Castleisland district, reported to the police that on the night of March 14th his house was fired into by a party of armed and disguised men. The police investigated the matter, and found a bullet embedded in the hall door. The reason Rourke assigns for the outrage is that he took an evicted farm in the district.

In the case of John Murphy, ex-Rate Collector of the Killarney Union, who defaulted to a considerable extent, and whose sureties were Timothy Kelleher, farmer, of Callinafercy, and Michael Roche, chemist, of Castleisland, and in which case a judgment was obtained on the bond, a receiver has been appointed over the estate of Mr. Roche, and the Guardians are hopeful of recovering a substantial portion of the defalcations. A sworn inquiry is to be held into the defalcations.

We regret to announce the death, at his residence, Day-place, Tralee, recently, after a lingering illness, of Mr. Denis Barrett. Deceased carried on an extensive business in Tralee, and by his sterling integrity and upright business principles won the respect and esteem of all with whom he had intercourse. He had been in failing health for some time past, but it did not necessitate his retirement from business, which he punctually attended to until two days before his death. His funeral took place from St. John's church, to Abbeydorney, on Sunday, March 31st.

LIMERICK.

An action for breach of promise of marriage, in which damages were laid aot £1,000, was tried beford Justice O'Brien and a city special jury, at the Limerick Assizes. The litigants were first cousins, the plaintiff, Miss Alice Ryan, being the daughter of a farmer, and the defendant, Francis Ryan, of the same class in life. There were no love-letters and the plaintiff, who is an intelligent young woman of twenty-seven years, stated that defendant promised to marry her on several occasions, and her statements were corroborated by a number of witnesses. The defendant subsequently married a Miss O'Dea, who, it appeared, had a larger fortune than Miss Ryan. The plaintiff was awarded £300 damages.

The annual Gaelic Convention for Limerick County and City was held at the Town Hall, the chairman, Mr. D. J., Lyons, presiding. After expenditures, the balance-sheet for the year showed just £8 in hand. About twenty-nine football and hurling teams having been affiliated, the chairman was re-elected, and also the secretary and treasurer, Mr. P. Hayes and Mr. J. Falvey.

ARMAGH.

His Eminence Cardinal Logue has made the following clerical changes in the Archdiocese: Rev. Patrick Murphy, C. C., Ardee, to be C. C., Beragh County Tyrone, Rev. Edmund Mackin C. C., Knockbridge, to be C. C., Ardee; Rev. Nathaniel Speers, C. C., Markethill, to be C. C., Ballinderry Bridge County Derry; Rev. Charles Montague C. C., Ballinderry Bridge, to be C. C. Knockbridge.

On March 22, an inquest was held at Ballybrannon, before Mr. Atkinson Coroner, on the body of a farmer named John Graham, who was burned to death under very sad circumstances. Deceased, who lived alone on his farm was about making himself some tea when he fell forward into the fire, and was burned about the head, so that he died shortly after his condition was discovered. An open verdict was returned.

DOWN.

On the night of March 20, the Cathedral, Newry, was entered by some persons, and eight contribution boxes were rifled of their contents. This is the fifth robbery of the kind in the Newry Cathedral, within twelve months.

We regret to announce the death of Sister Mary Xavier (O'Hagan), which took place on Sunday, March 21, at the Convent of Mercy, Canal street Newry, after a long illness. The deceased nun belonged to a family that had given four daughters to the church, one of whom is now Mother Superior of Convent of Mercy at Dergan, while two are Nnus in the Convent in which Sister Mary Xavier died. Deceased was sister to the late Mr J J. O'Hagan, J. P.

TYRONE.

A Belfast correspondent of one of the Irish papers writes. "Much currency is given to the rumor that the member for South Tyrone (Mr. T. W. Russell) will not seek re-election for the constituency." The reason is not far to see. The men of Tyrone will have no more of the renegade who, under pretence of being a Home Ruler sneaked into their confidence—and then betrayed them by going over to the Tory Coercion government—for the miserable place which he has received and can now hold to the end of his life.

FERMANAGH.

The Dublin Gazette announces that Mr James Orr, Q. C., County Court Judge for Fermanagh and Monaghan has been appointed to the office of County Court Judge and Chairman of Quarter Sessions for the County Down The same Gazette also announces officially the appointment of Mr. Walter Craig, Q. C., as County Court Judge of Fermanagh, in the room of Mr. Orr.

DONEGAL.

On the afternoon of Sunday, March 20th, a shocking occurrence took place in a small country house in the district of Cockhill, near Buncrana. The occupants of the house were an old man and woman of the name of Blew and with them resided a grown-up son named Charles Blew, an invalid brother two daughters and a niece. The daughters had gone out to Mass in the neighborhboring church, when the son Charles, who for some time had exhibited symptoms of lunacy, appeared to be suddenly seized with a paroxysm of rage, and, grasping a potato beetle, he rushed at the old couple and struck them over the head and face He then turned his attention to the bedridden brother, and furiously assaulted him also.

CONNAUGHT

GALWAY.

Mr Joseph Bowles, who was sentenced to penal servitude, in connection with what was known at the time as the Ballinderry tragedy, on March 26th, arrive at his home, Looscaun, near Woodford, after two years and three months' incarceration, and received cead mille failthe from all his friends and neighbors, who never had any other feeling than that of implicit confidence in his innocence of the crime of which he was accused—the killing of a man named Callaghan, who had taken an evicted farm. Callaghan had fired a shot at a man named Kelly, who was a member of a boating party in 1894, on Lough Derg, and in the effort of the party to take the gun from him he was killed. Mr. Bowles release was somewhat unexpected.

ROSCOMMON.

On March 23rd for the second time the hearing of a case against Thomas Kenny for shooting at William Ward, on Christmas night last was resumed at a Special court of inquiry. The prisoner was discharged.

In the Chancery division of the Land court in Dublin recently in the matter of the estate of Patrick Taane, owner, again came before the court, when on application of William Scallan, solicitor the offer of John Lavan, Elphin for the sum of £910 was accepted.

SLIGO.

With much regret we have to record the death of Mrs. Gunning, Ballishodare, which took place on March 20th, at her residence.

MAYO.

In Castlebar, on March 28th, the funeral of Surgeon Thomas Gibbons, of the Relay Nacy, who was drowned at Kingstown, took place, with unusual military pomp and impressive ceremony.

On March 31st, before the Lord Chancellor, Mr. James P. Lavan, son of the late John P. Lavan, Esq., Newcastle-West, was sworn in a solicitor of the Supreme court of Judicature in Ireland. Mr. Lavan served his apprenticeship to John Condon, solicitor, Newcastle-West, and obtained a distinguished place at the last final examination. He intends to practice in Newcastle-West.

CLARE.

At the Kilrush Petty Sessions Court, on March 22nd, before Mr. A. M. Harpur, R. M. (in the chair), Mr. Wm. J. Glynn, J. P., and Mr. John Culligan, J. P., (the later did not adjudicate in the Coercion Act prosecution), a young man named Joseph Browne (brother of a man named Patrick Browne, who has taken the evicted farm of Mrs. Madigan, of Knockena, near Kilrush), prosecuted three women, named Bridget Madigan (the evicted tenant), Mary Madigan (her sister), and a woman named Mary Garvey, aged 60 years, for general intimidation, abusive language, assault and conspiring to prevent him having intercourse with his brother, Patrick Browne. The magistrates acquitted the younger women, but sentenced Mary Garvey to jail for a week.

TIPPERARY.

Strong exception is being taken in Clonmel to the site selected by the Postoffice Surveyors for the new post-office in Clonmel. It is declared to be at the extreme end of the town, most inconveniently situated for general business purposes, and objectionable also in being right opposite the barracks.

At Golden Petty Sessions, on March 23rd, before Mr. W. H. Joyce, R. M. (in the chair), Mr. Frank Massey and Mr. Patrick Merrick, Head Constable Scully prosecuted John Murphy, William Murphy and Daniel Murphy, all of Derryclooney, for stealing £8 and a check on the National Bank, value for £9 12s., the property of Nicholas Murphy. The case had been heard on the previous court-day, when Murphy (who is a very old man) in his evidence said he believed in fairies and that he was often robbed by them. The case on that day was adjourned for further evidence. The magistrates now decided to refuse informations in both cases. Mr. John O'Dwyer, B. L., Tipperary, appeared for the defendants.

WATERFORD.

On the evening of March 23, news reached Waterford of a big burning at Ballychan farm, near Tramore. The tenant of the farm had purchased from the Land Commission, and was about to being evicted for arrears, when Mr. Andrew Farrell, T. C., of Waterford, to whom the tenant owed a large trade debt, intervened, and paid off the claim of the Land Commissioners. Mr. Farrell subsequently brought proceedings against the tenant, and an eviction took place. On the morning of March 20, all the buildings were burned down, and the police authorities are now investigating the matter.

The question of the freeing of Waterford Bridge was brought before the Kilkenny Grand July, at their first meeting, by Mr. Dunbar Barton, Q. C., M P., who appeared for the Waterford Corporation. The Kilkenny Grand Jury acceded to the request of the Waterford deputation, as to the freeing of the bridge, by fifteen votes to six.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

Mr. James Ross, a highly-respected Catholic citizen of Belfast, died on Tuesday, March 10th, at his late residence, Cliftonville, Antrim road. The deceased gentleman, who had attained the advanced age of eighty-one, was born near Belfast, and at an early period of his career embarked in the building trade in conjunction with his brother, the late William Ross, of Clonard Mills, Falls road. In a later period of his business career, during the episcepacy of the late Most Rev. Dr. Dorrian, he was selected by the Catholic committete to build the present St. Mary's hall, on Bank lane. Mr. Ross was a sincere Catholic and a stanch Nationalist. At one of the largest open-air meetings held by the Catholics of Belfast to condemn the action of the late Judge Keogh, in connection with his notorious judgment in the Galway election petition, the chair was taken by Mr. Ross. At the time of the riots of 1886, Mr. Riss was appointed one of the Commissioners, in conjunction with the late Sir Edward Harland and Sir Andrew Reid, to whom was entrusted the disposition of the police force in those troublous times. The deceased also gave evidence on the part of the Catholic body before the Riots Commission, presided over by Judge Day.

True to the old, historic traditions of their fathers, the Belfast Nationalists have sent a splendid subscription of £210 as a first installment to the National Fund—a fitting sequel to the many acts of generosity from the men of the Northern Capital, in support of the National cause. The fund is now approaching its fourth thousand.

In Belfast, on March 22nd, a portrait of Sir Wm. MacCormac, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, was unveiled in the library of the Queen's college. There was the usual "loyal" display on the occasion. Rev. Dr. Hamilton, president of the college, was in the chair; but Lord Dufferin did the prescribed official talking, in which he seemed careful to impress on his hearers that, though the deceased Irish surgeon was a man who had attained the highest official position attainable in the noble profession to which he belonged, the public tribute to admiration which they were about to pay him must be circumscribed by personal and local considerations.