

OUR IRISH LETTER.

NEWS FROM ALL THE COUNTIES OF IRELAND.

What is Being Done by the People at Home—Various Items From Every Section of the Emerald Isle.

CONNAUGHT.

GALWAY.

Because of services rendered on their behalf by the Rev. Denis O'Hara the tenantry on the Leetch estate at Treenkeel and Treenlaur have arranged with the mortgagees to become proprietors of their holdings at twelve and a half years' purchase.

J. McHale has been appointed station master at Oranmore station, in place of Felix Partridge, resigned.

The tenants of Martin Bodkin of Annagh, Ballyglunin, at Turloughmore have purchased their holdings at an average of eighteen years' purchase.

Mrs. Conway, Lisheenavilla, was killed in the village of Ballintemple, three miles from Galway, lately by the cart toppling over and crushing her fatally.

LEITRIM.

With regret we record the demise of Mrs. Bridget O'Beirne, wife of Constable O'Beirne, of Kinnegad, County Westmeath, and daughter of Mrs. Cline of Moher, Roskeel, at the early age of 25 years. On Monday, the 1st inst., her remains were brought from Mullingar to Annaduff cemetery, where interment took place. The Rev. Father Cahill read the burial service.

MAYO.

The good parish priest of Bekan has issued an appeal for funds for the unfortunate victim of landlordism, Mrs. Anastatin Burke, of Bekan, now in her eighty-sixth year. Several persons have generously responded, but it is hoped that as much will be subscribed as will keep the old lady as well as decently and out of that hell the Irish people hate so much—the poor-house.

The Earl of Lucan, on the suggestion of Very Rev. Father Lyons, will divide 2,000 acres of the lands of Lichenbarrow (held by one extensive grazier whose term expires in November) among his tenantry in small holdings. This concession is much appreciated and is a good example for other landlords in Mayo. Some time previously he divided the lands of Sarnaght, and this was a great boon to the tenantry, who are now in a prosperous condition.

Recently news reached Westport that the dead body of Mr. George P. Loudon, formerly at Kildangan House, was washed ashore at Clare Island. For three weeks previously Mr. Loudon had been missed. Mr. Loudon until recently lived in two Deerpark near Murrisk with his widowed mother who died a few months ago. Receiving some £20 compensation from Lord Sligo, who was anxious to have the Deerpark cleared, he left his little cottage and has since had no residence. His days were spent in the houses at Murrisk, his nights in one of the cells of Murrisk Abbey. Deceased was for many years a member of the Westport Board of Guardians. He was a most kindly, social and hospitable occupant of Kildangan House for many years. He had no enemies and was well liked by the poor people of Murrisk and its surroundings, where, in his latter years and poorer circumstances, most of his time was spent. Deceased was unmarried.

ROSCOMMON.

Ballintubber October fair was somewhat good. Store cattle were in good demand and showed an upward tendency. There was an average supply of sheep, and prices were good. Hogget eyes were in great demand, and lambs were much sought after at from 25s. to 30s. each. Fat sheep were in good demand and were quickly bought up by the Castlereagh Victualers.

SLIGO.

Father D. Gallagher presided at the last meeting of the Keesh Branch of the Irish National League. The committee: J. M. Oryan, treasurer; M. Gray, secretary; P. Duggan, J. Boylan, J. Cullen, P. O'Connor, O. Hannan, M. Henry, P. Moran, P. Gormley, P. Oryan, F. Brahehy, D. Buoye, P. Morrison, T. Soden. The secretary said he had 100 cards to divide among them to be distributed in their different localities, but as the number required fell short he was ordered to write for another 100. The rent reduction was the next question discussed. Some would go in for getting one-half, others for one-third. The reverend chairman said he went through both the parishes during the last few weeks, and the cry of distress was almost everywhere. He thought there were a good many people who

would hardly be able to pay any rent at all unless themselves and their families would slave afterwards. However, he would say to them to moderate in their demand, and it's the surest way they would obtain it. He understood Lieut. William G. Phibbs' tenants were warned for the 10th inst. in Ballymote. Let them go in a body, and he would go with them. He would say 5s. would be fair and to stick to it. A memorial, signed by the tenants, to that effect was sent to Mr. Leppage, to be forwarded to the landlord.

A meeting called by Mr. P. A. McHugh, M. P., Mayor of Sligo, was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, for the purpose of making arrangements to celebrate the 98 centenary. Though the notice of the meeting was short, the assembly was large and representative, including men of every shade of political belief, and the proceedings were characterized by intense earnestness, enthusiasm and determination.

LEINSTER.

DUBLIN.

The Executive Committee of the 98 Centenary celebration met in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Dublin, last week. Henry Dixon, vice-president, presided.

November 4 the Diamond Jubilee of the foundation of the head convent of the Irish branch of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin was celebrated at the Loreto Convent, Rathfarham. Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin, four bishops, many clergymen, secular and regular, and a numerous congregation. Solemn high mass was celebrated at 11 o'clock. Most Rev. Dr. Walsh presided.

Recent deaths in Dublin—Balfour—November 8, at 81 South Richmond street, Miss Emily Balfour, aged 80 years. Burke—November 8, at 36 Portland row, Mrs. Mary Burke, widow of the late John Burke Flynn—November 10, at 9 Veracoyne place, Dublin, Alice Flynn, at an advanced age. Hughes—November 10, Mary Kathleen (Minnie), beloved wife of James L. J. Hughes, 20 Carysfort avenue, Blackrock, County Dublin, aged 28 years. Johnson—November 10, at Dean's Grange, Monkstown, Sarah Johnson of Ballymonee, Ovoca, Kerrigan—At 112 Great Brunswick street, Annie Teresa Kerrigan. Moran—November 6, Patrick Moran, slater and contractor, late of Phibsborough and Usher's quay. Pitts—November 9, at Straffan, James Pitts Doyle—November 7, at Grosvenor, Dalkey, Lizzie Doyle, youngest daughter of Anne and the late Nicholas Doyle. Galbraith—November 7 at Lower Mount street, Dublin, George Galbraith of Drogheda, aged 42 years, eldest son of the late Hugh Galbraith McIntyre—November 6, at the Hospice for the Dying, Haroldscross, Mary J. McIntyre, aged 26 years, youngest daughter of Patrick McIntyre, late D. M. P. McNamara—November 7, Warwick House, Kenilworth square, Michael McNamara, aged 80 years.

KILDARE.

On November 9, at the early age of 28 years, died Robert Gorman of Maynooth. Interment was in Laraghbryan. Dr. Coady of Naas was lately the victim of an accident which will prevent him from practicing for some time. He was driving along a street in Dublin when the horse slipped and the doctor was flung to the ground and sustained a fracture of the wrist.

KILKENNY.

Mrs. Mary Rafferty of Clodiagh, Instigo, died Oct. 21, deeply regretted. Mr. George B. Newport, J. P., Rockview, Instigo, was hunting with the Kilkenny hounds and he received a bad kick just below the knee from a horse. He was attended by Dr. O'Gorman, who was hunting, and subsequently removed to Kilkenny, where he was treated by Dr. James. Later he was conveyed to his home. The leg was badly fractured.

With regret we record the demise of Mr. Freany, on Oct. 21, at Mullinavat. He was a native of Glenmore. During two years he manifested symptoms of disease, which finally carried him off. He was 50 years of age. His remains were first brought to Mullinavat chapel where a requiem mass and office were celebrated. Celebrant, Rev. M. Corcoran, C. C., Dunamaggin, brother-in-law of deceased.

KINGS.

Joseph Dooley and Francis Gallagher have been returned for trial on a charge of moonlighting and firing into the house of Margaret Byrne. Their case was tried in Birr, Nov. 9. In English Upper, Borriskane direction, a young man named Kane, son of a farmer, accidentally shot himself in a singular way. He bagged a

pheasant, at which one of his dogs leaped. He swung round his gun, then loaded, and at the trail, he beat the dog off, and the weapon exploded, the charge lodging in deceased's side. He lay helpless and bleeding for an hour, when the dog's howling attracted the notice of the neighbors, who found him still conscious. He died, however, in a few minutes, and before medical aid could be procured. He was 27 years of age.

LONGFORD.

Rev. Sir G. R. Fetherston, High Sheriff, refused the court house to the Town Commissioners in Longford to meet to appoint a 98 centenary committee. The commissioners appointed Thomas Plunkett, Matthew Farrell and Thomas Duffy to wait on the Rev. P. Dolan, administrator, to obtain permission to meet in the Catholic new hall.

Patrick Hestor, who is accused of having killed his father-in-law, Bernard Keegan, farmer, of Lurgan, has been sent for trial. He is about 45 years of age.

LOUTH.

A large public meeting was held in Donahoe on Sunday, November 7, in the Laborers' hall, for the purpose of furthering the cause of amassery and curdling members. There was a very large attendance. The Emmet band discoursed a choice selection of music. Mr. Robert Henry, president of the Dundalk Laborers' society, presided. A vote of thanks was drawn up. A renewal of subscriptions took place, and a large number present joined the association. A resolution was passed protesting against the continued and barbarous imprisonment of the Irish political prisoners.

MEATH.

Michael Kelly, who for many years had charge of the crossing of the Great Northern railway over the Trim road, Navan, was killed by a train while opening it for an express on November 6.

The tenants on the estate of James H. Douglas attended at Mysball last week, and signed agreements to purchase their buildings for eighteen and one-half times the present rent, this purchase money to include all arrears of rent due. As there is at least one year's rent due, this amounts to buying at seventeen and one-half years' purchase.

QUEENS.

The Unionists and Tories in the Barony of Ballydame are denouncing the Grand Jury for electing a Catholic barony constable in the person of Mr. Farrell. Mr. James Neale, the defeated one, is, of course, particularly sore, and says there will be no living for him when "our best statesman, Mr. Balfour," will give local governing powers to Ireland. Poor Mr. Neale! The people will then do their own business, and his class will not be persecuted like the new governors were.

WESTMEATH.

Mr. T. Farrell presided at last meeting of Mullingar Teachers' association. He, in eloquent and affecting terms, referred to the loss sustained by the death of Mr. Richard Dowling. The following resolution was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, that the Mullingar Teachers' association desire to place on record sincere regret for the untimely death of Mr. Dowling of the Carly National School. His zeal for its welfare will be difficult, if at all possible to replace. We tender to his relatives our heartfelt sympathy in their sad bereavement."

WEXFORD.

A fatal accident occurred at Templeshin, near Adamstown, Nov. 6. James Mernagh, son of a farmer, while attending a threshing machine, had his left arm caught in the machinery. From the elbow the arm was literally crushed into a jelly.

Father Kavanagh's new history of the Insurrection in 1798 will be published next month. The comments of the press are most complimentary. It should find a place in every Irish home.

WICKLOW.

Mrs. James Lawlor, Old Court, Blessington, died November 8, sincerely regretted. Interment was in Kilbride cemetery. Funeral cortege long and representative of all creeds and classes in the community.

A fatality occurred in Ballyshane between Rathdrum and Aughrim, resulting in the death of a farmer under sad circumstances. Mr. John Doyle, Ballyshane, was returning from Aughrim when the cart overturned, and he was caught between it and the ground, and crushed to death.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

A special meeting was held in the Laborers' clubroom, Miltownmalbay, Sunday, Mr. Thomas McMahon presiding. This resolution was unanimously adopted, proposed by Mr. Michael O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Michael Murray: "We call upon the Government to open relief works in this district, to enable us to sustain ourselves and families during the winter. In consequence of the failure of the potato crop in West Clare and the high price of provisions, and the want of employment in this town and district, there is nothing staring us in the face but famine. That copies of the resolution be sent to the Lord Lieutenant and the Chief secretary for Ireland, Major Jameson, M. P.; John Dillon, M. P.; John Redmond, M. P., and the Ennistymon Board of Guardians."

A largely attended public meeting was held at Crusheen to denounce a case of threatened eviction. Mr. P. L. Ughery presided. Rev. J. O'Meara, C. C., and the leading parishioners were present. Father O'Meara proposed a series of resolutions urging on the person alleged to be about to take the Dooan farm to consider the length of possession of the present tenant, Mr. Neylon, and the regularity with which the rent was paid, and to leave her in possession, offering sympathy to Mrs. Neylon, and promising support by every constitutional means. He made an earnest appeal to support the evicted tenants. Mr. Hanrahan seconded the resolutions, which were adopted. Mr. William Redmond, M. P., also spoke.

CORK.

Friday night, November 5, as a car driver from Kanturk, named Jeremiah Donahy, was returning from Mallow, driving a covered car, the horse suddenly shied and Donahy was thrown from his seat, falling on his head on the road. The occupants alighted, and, perceiving his serious condition, spiritual and medical aid was summoned. The Rev. J. Greene, Castlemayne, and Dr. P. J. O'Leary of Kanturk were promptly in attendance, and everything possible was done to relieve the sufferer, but he remained unconscious the whole night, and died at 10 o'clock in the morning.

On Saturday, November 6, the remains of the late Mrs. Ellen Harrington were removed from Prospect House, Crumlin, and taken to Kingsbridge railway station, Dublin, from which they were conveyed to Castletown Berehaven, for interment. A great number of friends and sympathizers assembled at Prospect House, which is the residence of Mr. Daniel Harrington, son of the deceased, and subsequently a long line of carriages followed the hearse to Kingsbridge. The train containing the coffin left at 2:45 o'clock.

The Lee branch of the Gaelic league in Cork has commenced its Irish classes in the Crawford schools of Science and Art, Nelson place. At the opening were John J. Murphy, M. R. S. A., president; O. J. Bergin, B. A., lecturer in Celtic, Queen's College, vice-president; J. Murphy, honorable treasurer; J. Jago, J. O'Callaghan, E. O'Donoghue, T. McMahon, J. S. Wayland, P. O'Shea, R. O'Connor, Miss E. Murphy, E. Bergin, M. Droumille, M. Shorter, L. McSweeney, M. O'Sullivan, K. O'Sullivan, M. Dinneen and M. D. Fleming, honorable secretary. Mr. G. S. Dodgson, the distinguished Basque scholar, who is studying Irish with great zeal, was present. He recently visited the Irish-speaking districts of West Cork and Kerry, and was delighted to find that the Irish language movement was making vigorous headway. Another visitor was Mr. J. B. O'Shea, T. C. D., one of our new Munster poets. The students were drafted into two classes under the care of Messrs. Bergin and Fleming. Father O'Growney's first and second books serving as class books. When the class work ended the president addressed the members on the progress that the Gaelic movement was making, as evidenced by the appearance at Covent Garden of an opera based on the old Irish romance of Diarmuid and Graine, by the publication by Mr. T. O'Neill Russell of a volume in Irish from cover to cover, and by the concession given by the Commissioners of National Education, who permit their inspectors to examine the school children in Irish, the copies of the prospectus of the new Irish paper "Fainne an Lae," distributed to the members that evening, being the crowning evidence of the "new soul" that had come into Erin since the Gaelic League had entered on its patriotic work.

KERRY.

In the court house, Listowel, Saturday, Timothy and Cornelius Scanlon, brothers, residing in Athea, Upper, were charged with having beaten and assaulted Patrick Blyden, Athea, on October 6, at Skehmerin, inflicting on him injuries from the result of which he died at Athea. They were held for trial.

LIMERICK.

Mr. Patrick Ryan mineral water manufacturer, of Sexton street, Limerick, was killed November 5, by falling off his van.

James Healy and Daniel Conway, fishermen, who were returning from herring fishing in Clonderlaw Bay a few nights ago, when in mid channel of the Shannon, heard loud noises on the water, but, thinking it was some pleasure party, they took no notice. Later on they could discern a boat and plainly heard cries for assistance. On pulling toward the craft they found her in a sinking condition, with seven men on board, five from Killrush and two natives of Glin. Only for the arrival of the fishermen the boat would have gone down in a few minutes with all on board. Some had divested themselves of their clothes ready to make a struggle for life by swimming, but, considering that they were a mile from the nearest land, their chances were very poor. They were making for the Clare shore.

TIPPERARY.

On November 8 a representative and enthusiastic meeting in support of the Evicted Tenants Fund was held in the Town Hall, Fethard. The Very Rev. Archdeacon Jones, P. P., presided. Archdeacon Jones during his address said: "These were the wounded soldiers of the fight, and the people of Ireland should not forget them, but should come forward and help them in the hour of their need. The splendid organization of the people during the land war had taught the landlords a severe lesson, and, though some rents had appeared in the ranks of that organization of late years, still, thank God, the rents were mending slowly and surely, and when the memorable years of '98 would come round it would find the forces of Ireland united once more and presenting a front that no foe could withstand." He said great honor was due to their gallant representative, Mr. Condon, who remained in the old land fighting the old fight through days of darkness and days of brightness, through trials and suffering. It was not easy work by any means, but never could it be said in Tipperary or any part of Ireland that Mr. Condon had flinched from doing his duty. After Mr. Condon and some others had spoken, a resolution, pledging support to the tenants, was unanimously adopted.

Rev. John Clancy, parish priest for Boherlahan, died on Monday, November 7, at the parochial residence, at the age of 71 years, and in the fiftieth year of his sacred ministry. During seventeen years he had been parish priest of the united parishes of Boherlahan and Dulla.

WATERFORD.

The memorial to the government asking for £2,500 for dredging upper reaches of the Blackwater below Cappoquin, to make suitable for regular tourist traffic, is receiving more than formal consideration, thanks to Capt. Donelan, M. P. The Board of Works Engineering Inspector will examine the condition of the river bed between Villerstown and Cappoquin, where a number of shoals obstruct the passage of the steamers at low water, causing the service to depend entirely on the condition of the tides.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

A man named McCreedy has been returned for trial, charged with attempting to shoot the postmaster of Belfast, Mr. Patrick Delaney.

An influential meeting of the '98 clubs was held under the auspices of the Belfast and Ulster '98 Centenary association on Sunday evening, to form a central executive for Ulster. The meeting was composed of a delegation not exceeding three in number from each of the national organizations, literary societies and '98 clubs.

ARMAGH.

Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland, has appointed Rev. Michael O'Brien, P. P., Loughgall, a canon of Armagh Cathedral Chapter. Father O'Brien has been indisposed of late, but his many friends will be glad to learn that he is rapidly recovering.

GAVAN.

At Cootehill Sessions lately, Patrick E. Smith, residing near Cootehill, was

charged with wilfully abducting and taking out of the possession of her father one Margaret Thomson of Co. Cereghan, Cootehill, being under age. Accused pleaded not guilty, and was represented by Mr. Joseph Boyle.

DERRY.

A mission was opened on Sunday in St. Mary's church, Bellaghy, by the Very Rev. Fathers O'Reilly and Murphy, S. J. St. Mary's, Bellaghy, is one of the many new churches the piety and generosity of the Irish Catholic people have of late erected to the glory of God. Recently the sanctuary has been adorned by very valuable and beautiful statues, with other presents for the altar, by Mrs. James McKendry, Hillhead.

DONEGAL.

Cardinal Logue arrived in Ballyshannon November 9, accompanied by the Rev. Father Quinn. The object of his visit was the appointment of medical officers to the Ghel Endowed Hospital. The Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe, is also one of the trustees, and arrived later. The applications were considered with the following result: Dr. Daniel L. Kelly, resident, and Drs. F. W. Copdon and R. H. Creighton, visiting surgeons and physicians. The selection has given general satisfaction. The hospital will soon open for patients.

DOWN.

The annual retreat of the members of the Holy Rosary Confraternity attached to the Dominican church and people of Newry generally, was brought to a successful consummation last week. Never before was evidence so forcibly brought to prove the illustrious Dominican, Father Larkin, than when the glorious spectacle of witnessing fifteen hundred persons approaching the altar and partaking of the Blessed Sacrament was witnessed. Father Larkin may well feel proud of the success he achieved during the mission. The good Father had the satisfaction of seeing almost one thousand of the congregation pledge themselves to abstain from all intoxicating drinks for twelve months. Immediately after the recital of the rosary on Sunday the reverend preacher delivered a beautiful exhortation. The solemn renewal of the baptismal vows was then proceeded with, benediction of the Blessed Sacrament bringing the service to a close.

FERMANAGH.

An old man named Thomas Conolly, a shoemaker, was found lying dead, on Sunday morning, Nov. 7, on the Main street, Maguire's bridge. Sunday morning Patrick Magee reported to the police that a man was lying dead on the street. They went along with Magee and found the dead body of Conolly in the water channel. The body was quite warm and there was a cut on the nose and two or three abrasions on the forehead. His hat was lying beside him, and near at hand was a shoemaker's heel stick. There were a few drops of blood on the ground, but the place presented no appearance of a struggle. The deceased leaves three or four children. He attended Lisnakea Fair Saturday, and returned home on the train arriving in Maguire's bridge after six. He was last seen on Saturday night playing cards in his own home with a couple of others. Two men named Frank Burke and Hugh Martin were seen in the company of the deceased during the night, and the police arrested the latter on suspicion, but on being brought before Mr. Henderson he was discharged.

MONAGHAN.

Sunday the monthly meeting of the Monaghan branch St. Patrick's League of the Cross was held in St. Macartin's Cathedral, Most Rev. Dr. Owens presiding. Rosary of Mary recited by Rev. James Gallagher and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by the Rev. P. J. Lynch. After the services a meeting of the priests of the parish and the prefects and sub-prefects of the various guilds was held in the chapter room of the cathedral, and after some discussion it was resolved to organize a brass band in connection with the league.

TYRONE.

A singular occurrence has just taken place in a field belonging to Peter Kelly, Clonlorichardson, five miles from Coagh. On Thursday he was working in it and noticed nothing strange, but on Friday morning he found in the centre a large hole thirty feet in diameter full of water. All attempts to fathom it proved fruitless. A great number of persons have visited the place, and the origin of the affair has caused considerable amount of speculation.