

# 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.

Mr. James Behan, of Forster street, Galway, died recently, deeply regretted by all who knew him. Interment was in Foothill cemetery.

Many tenants in the county are now the owners of the lands they held as tenants. On the estate of Edward O'Kelly, at Lawrencestown, Edward Ryder purchased at £1,000. On the estate of Ormsby B. Miller, at Killoolokny, John Corbain, at £648. At Ballinacra, on the estate of William Joseph O'Reilly, Denis Fallon at £300; at Carraroekeenan, Patrick Fallon, at £1,271; at Slieve, Bartholomew Donnellan, at £178; at Killenny, Philip Smith, at £3,000; at Colmanstown, Mary Anna Smith at £3,000, and at Colmanstown, James Henry Smith, at £3,000.

Mr. John Roche, M. P., was interviewed in Woodford last week relative to the distress in the district, and when asked did they intend appealing to the Irish in America, he said: "Except in case of extreme necessity, I am opposed to such a course. Are we not overtaxed here by over two and one-half millions yearly above our due proportion, and have we not a right to that in our hour of trial? Why should we be periodically subjected to the humiliation of begging other people to support us? Let us manage our own affairs and then you will see a sovereign remedy for all the ills our people are enduring."

A branch of the Independent League was formed in the parish of Clonagallway on Sunday. The following officers were elected: Thomas Cussey, president; Hugh O'Dea, secretary; Peter Ross, treasurer. Members of committee—Richard Fahy, James Concanon, Michael Giles, John Noone, John Quinn, Pat Moran, John Fleck, Pat Egan, Martin Skerritt, Henry Walsh.

On November 28, at the Convent of Mercy, Galway, took place the solemn ceremony of the profession as members of the great Community of the Sisters of Mercy. The young ladies who, on completion of the novitiate, had the happiness to make their religious vows, were:

Miss K. Kevany (in religion Sister M. Louis), daughter of the late Mr. Patrick Kevany, Tullamore; Miss Conroy (in religion Sister M. Magdalene), daughter of Mr. Patrick Conroy, Galway; and Miss Joyce (in religion Sister M. Paul), daughter of Mr. John H. Joyce, Oughterad. His Lordship the Bishop of Galway, Most Rev. Dr. MacCormack, assisted by Rev. Father Dooley, Galway, and Rev. Father Conroy, P. P., Spiddal, officiated on the occasion.

### LEITRIM.

Recently two well-known inhabitants of Drumana died. One was Mrs. Honan, at the age of 70 years, the remains being interred at Annaduff on Sunday. A large and respectable cortege accompanied her remains. On Tuesday morning Bob Bridges, at the early age of 19 years. His demise was greatly regretted. Interment took place in Annaduff.

Rev. Patrick Ghehrst, P. P., presided at the last meeting of the Lower Drumreilly Branch of the I. N. F. The attendance was numerous. Mr. James Plunket is the honorary secretary.

### MAYO.

Mr. John Dillon, M. P., is making a tour of Mayo. On December 1 he addressed a great meeting in Swinford. Mr. Davitt presided. In eloquent terms he set forth the needs of the district.

The death of Thomas William Hynes, Castlebar, occurred recently from congestion of the lungs. He was aged 62 years. Interment was in Old Church. Funeral cortege long and representative of all classes and creeds.

The tenements on the Burrishoole property of the late Mr. Kennedy have been allowed an abatement of 5s. in the pound sterling on the rents. This is the last rent payable to Mrs. Kennedy, as the property is now sold to a Mr. Jones, who intends living upon it. It is hoped he will deal as kindly with his tenants as his predecessor. The O'Donnell property, Newport, asked a reduction from the receiver, whose reply was they might go into the land court. Mr. Richard Gibbons, J. P., Westport, collected some rents in Ballyvaughan during the week, but did not give an abatement.

## ROSCOMMON.

The public meeting to establish a creamery for Boyle, was held in Boyle courthouse last week.

On November 22 a meeting of the old Nationalists of Breedogue was held to establish a '98 club for the parish and neighboring districts. Mr. Edward Neary presided, and dwelt upon the necessity of Irishmen doing honor to the memory of those who died for native land. Officers will be elected at next meeting.

### SLIGO.

The members of Sligo Town council have re-elected Mr. P. A. McHugh, M. P., mayor of their ancient town for 1898.

High Sheriff for the county during 1898 will be Andrew Jameson, Sutton House, Sutton, county Dublin; James L. Hale, Temple View, Siskey; Arthur Jackson, Lisroyan, Sligo. Catherine Marren, Knocknaskeagh, was found lately in a bog hole in Rathdooney. She was unconscious. Mr. Richard Gorman was the first person to find the poor woman. For some time she had been in the employment of Mr. Patrick O'Brien, Coloney.

## LEINSTER.

### CARLOW.

Rev. J. Parkinson, C. C., Balinglass, has been appointed administrator, Luggacourran; Rev. Father Monaghan has been transferred from Ballyroan to Balinglass; Rev. J. Farrell, C. C., from Rosinella to Ballyroan; Rev. J. Kennedy, C. C., from Leighlinbridge to Rosinella.

### DUBLIN.

Mr. D. Tallon, J. C., on December 1 was selected as Lord Mayor of Dublin for 1898. He also fills the unexpired term for which ex-Lord Mayor McCoy was elected, but which the votes of the people Usher's Quay Ward debarred him from completing. It was a vote of censure on him for taking contracts to supply coal to the city government while he is a member of the corporation and Lord Mayor.

A professor of Irish has been appointed at St. Patrick's Training College, Drumcondra, Dublin.

Recent deaths in Dublin.—Lowry—Nov. 29, at 16 Fingall street, Thomas Lowry, aged 60 years, late of Brr, King's county, father of Michael and William Lowry. D. M. Polloe. Fitzpatrick—Dec. 1, at 48 Rutland street, John Fitzpatrick. Flanagan—Nov. 30, at the Mater Hospital, Mary Flanagan, Cross Kevin street. Lynam—Nov. 30, at 64 Haddington road, Mary Lynam. Newman—Nov. 28, at Jervis Street Hospital, Mrs. Elizabeth Newman of 29 Annesley avenue. O'Brien—Nov. 28 at 50 Arranmore terrace, N. C. R., Bridget O'Brien. O'Keefe—Nov. 29, at Bullock, Dalkey, Margaret O'Keefe. Fanning—Nov. 28, at St. Vincent's Hospital, Stephen's Green, Mary Fanning. Farrell—Nov. 27, James Farrell, Buter Factor, Little Green Market, aged 71 years. Byrne—Nov. 29, at 1 Leinster Market, Maria Byrne, at an advanced age.

### KILDARE.

The news of the departure to the diocese of Cashel of the Rev. J. Conroy, Naas, occasioned widespread regret. During his seven years' sojourn in Naas Father Conroy won the esteem and love of all. It is the intention of the members of the Naas Sacred Heart sodality to present him with an address and testimonial as a token of their affection and admiration.

On Nov. 29, in Gelmoy, died Mr. John Bowe, aged 68 years, father of Rev. James Bowe, deeply and widely regretted.

Mr. Thomas De Moleyns, who was for many years County Court Judge of Kilkenny, was a shipman on board the Bellerophon when Napoleon, on July 15, 1815, after the "Hundred Days," placed himself under the flag of England and was received on board that ship. Mr. De Moleyns is yet in the land of the living.

### KILKENNY.

Mr. Healy has been elected Mayor of the Marble city for 1898.

Thomas P. Keenan, son of Thomas Keenan, Ballinany, Newbridge, died November 21, at 7 Dargle road, Drumcondra, Dublin. Interred in Glasnevin.

The death of Mr. Andrew Oullen of 7 North Main street, Naas, aged 80 years, occurred on Nov. 21. Interment was in the New Cemetery. Funeral cortege long.

### KINGS.

Mrs. Guise, who owns considerable property in the districts of Cloneyquin, Ballinawher and Gurteneard, has in-

timated that she will sell her interest therein to the tenants.

### LONGFORD.

Died—Nov. 28, at Brumshambo, Drumlish, Anglo Griffin. Nov. 26, at Commercial Hotel, Granard, Charles Brady, T. C.

### LOUTH.

The ancient and historic town of Drogheda will have for its chief magistrate the coming year a well-known, true and tried Nationalist in Mr. Gogarty.

Mrs. Margaret Lambe, mother of Mr. Edward Lambe, organist of St. Peter's, died at Old Abbey on Nov. 29, deeply regretted.

### MEATH.

Many persons of influence in the county are taking a deep interest in the association founded to work for the abolishment of the overtaxation of Ireland.

Quite a considerable number of persons have now become aware of the land they till. Though the land acts are not all the Irish people desire, yet they have enabled some of the people to get rooted in the soil.

### QUEEN'S.

Mr. R. H. Leslie, of the post office, Naas, has been transferred to Marlborough.

### WESTMEATH.

The High Sheriff of the county for 1898 will be: Edward R. Dunbury, Tigue; Woodstock, Iustitogue, County Kilkenny; Edward Dames Longworth, Esq., D. L., Oregan, Athlone; Dudley Volley Potter, Esq., Clonlost, Killucan.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Thomas Meoney, Austin-Fraser street, Mullingar, which occurred on Sunday in Dublin, where deceased had gone to consult a specialist. The remains were conveyed by train to Mullingar, and after high mass in St. Mary's cathedral were interred in Carrolstown. The funeral was numerously attended.

### WEXFORD.

Rev. John Doyle, P. P., Newbawn, after a long indisposition, has resumed his spiritual duties.

Mr. William Doyle has been elected alderman for the St. Ivers ward of the Wexford Town Council, and M. McKenny and I. L. Kehoe were elected councillors, with a majority of a single vote in each case.

Died—Nov. 16, at Ballyhogue, Bree, Thomas Kehoe, aged 78. Nov. 16, at 89 St. John's Road, Kirkdale, Liverpool, from the effects of a fall, Stephen Neville, Clonard, aged 51 years.

### WICKLOW.

Mr. John Hindy, Balinglass, was seriously injured last week by a runaway horse.

Died—Nov. 29, at Dunlavin, Elizabeth Rockford, aged 85 years. Nov. 30, at 38 Maitland street, Bray, Mary Costello, aged 25 years.

A very sad state of affairs was revealed during the week in connection with the fishing industry at Arklow. The harvest of the sea has been as plentifully reaped at Dunmore East this year as in previous years, but the fishermen have met with the most discouraging results. On Wednesday night the boats had very heavy takes of fish. Among the boats out there were the Shamrock, Waterbird, Nil Desperandum, Erin's Hope, Geraldine. The boats brought back up to 50,000 and 100,000, only to find that there were no buyers or cursers. The fish were very good but unfortunately there were no buyers. The men watched the fish grow putrid until they were forced to cast them back into the sea. Thus thousands upon thousands of fish were disposed of until the hardy toilers of the sea had the mortification to see all their labor go for nothing. Such a state of things is regrettable in the extreme, and certainly calls for some remedial measures to prevent this important industry from languishing or dying altogether. The only practical preventative, of course, would be a curing station, so that the fishermen should not be depending on immediate demand for preservation of their fish. Private effort would certainly be well repaid if exerted in this direction, as a more suitable site for a properly equipped curing station than Dunmore East could scarcely be found. If the government were appealed to it is almost certain that they would see the advisability of assisting such an enterprise. Anyway it is lamentable if nothing can be done to prevent the pitiable sight which was witnessed last week.—Wicklow Star.

## MUNSTER.

### CLARE.

Father F. MacMahon, C. C., lately of Killaloe and now of Kilmihil, has been presented with a unique present by the ladies of Killaloe, where he labored for many years. Misses Hare and the Misses Courtenay were selected to carry out the object, and in a brief period they were provided with a sum which purchased a tea tray and tea service of silver. The tray is massive, octagonal shaped, and exquisitely chased, the border being of shamrock. In the centres are inscribed the words, "To the Rev. Francis MacMahon, as a mark of esteem from his friends in Killaloe."

### CORK.

Last week Mr. J. F. X. O'Brien M. P., delivered a lecture on Robert Emmet before the members of the Cork National Society at the rooms, Old George's street. There was a large attendance, and the lecturer was followed with rapt attention.

Some members of the Independent party in Cork assembled in the mayor's room of the Municipal Buildings for the purpose of making a presentation to Mr. A. O'Driscoll, T. C., on the occasion of his marriage. The mayor, Mr. P. H. Meade, occupied the chair. The presentation took the form of a tea and coffee service, while the mayor made a private presentation of beautiful taintains. The mayor, in making the presentation, congratulated Mr. O'Driscoll on his approaching marriage, and, on behalf of himself and party in Cork, gave that presentation as a souvenir of the interesting occasion, as well as a token of good will on the part of himself and colleagues to Mr. O'Driscoll. Mr. O'Driscoll suitably replied.

The annual demonstration in honor of the Manchester martyrs was held in Cork. The Sunday within the octave of the 23rd of November has for years been fixed for the celebration, and is now known as Decoration Day. In the morning many graves in St. Finbarr's and St. Joseph's cemeteries and in graveyards in the country were decorated by the local committee, and at 1 o'clock a procession formed at the Tramway station of the Western road and proceeded through the city to St. Joseph's cemetery, where lie the remains of many men who were identified with the Fenian movement. The procession was larger than that of previous years, and its progress attracted thousands of sympathetic spectators. A conspicuous feature of the demonstration was the presence of the "Old Guard," who turned up in strength, and were accompanied by the mayor, Councillor Meade. The Irish National Foresters and Ancient Order of Foresters were strongly represented, and several members of the corporation were present.

Recent deaths in Cork.—Edmonds—On November 17, at 3 Clifton terrace, Passage West, Henry Edmonds. White—At Carolina terrace, Cork, November 16, Hannah Elizabeth White, aged 77 years. Coppinger—November 14, at the home, 88 Mounloy square, Dublin, Anna Coppinger, aged 92. Sheehan—On November 13, at Meadestown Lower, Ballygarvan, Patrick Sheehan, aged 38 years. Delhury—November 13, at 40 Clarence street, Daniel Delhury. Horgan—At Doonah, Denis Horgan, uncle of Rev. Denis Horgan, Sacramento, Cal. Murphy—November 15, at his daughter's residence, Mrs. O'Brien, 327 Blarney street, Cork, Edward Murphy. Hegarty—On November 25, at Timoleague, James Hegarty, Lotamore, Glanmire, aged 30 years. O'Driscoll—On November 24, Michael O'Driscoll, Ballybrock, Carrigrohane, aged 21 years. Lane—On November 25, at Carrigroon, Mallow, Mary Lane. O'Driscoll—On November 26, at 6 Wandestford street, Clarke's Bridge, John O'Driscoll.

### KERRY.

The twenty-ninth anniversary of the martyrdom of Allen, Larkin and O'Brien was celebrated in a befitting manner in Tralee. Contingents attended from Listowel, Causeway, Abbeystown, Ardara, Lixnaw and all the local districts, and when the procession started from Prince's quay for Rath cemetery there was a very large concourse.

The tenants on the Corkery, O'Connor and Heard properties, in the district of Sneem, are getting substantial reductions of their rents. Died—November 17, William Clifford, Castleland, aged 79 years.

### LIMERICK.

Mr. M. Cusack has been elected mayor of Limerick City for 1898. Several Ballyhahill tenants on Lord Montague's Mount Trencard estate are availing themselves of the purchase clauses of the Land Act. James

Walsh of Ballyhahill is buying at the rate of 17 years' purchase, including arrears. The present rent is £21 6s., and the installment to be paid annually to the Land Commission is £14. William Oregan, Ballyhahill, is giving 17 years' purchase on the present rent of £10 5s., annual installment payable to Land Commission, £11. John Fitzmaurice, Ballyhahill, has also purchased at 18 years. His former rent was £11 5s., annual installment payable to Land Commission, £8 8s. Lord Montague's property has been a fairly rented one, and kindly relations have prevailed on this estate.

Mr. C. R. McNamara, solicitor, Dublin, attended at O'Connell's Hotel, Ballygarry, last week, to receive the rents due on the property of Mr. Goodricke Thomas Peacocke, Carrigna-Greens, Dalkey, Dublin, now of London, comprising the townlands of Ballinroe, Caherhennessy, Fortwilliam, Rylanes and Woodstock. Mr. Peacocke also owns considerable house property, comprising the whole of Knight street, Ball garry. To each class of tenant an abatement of 20 per cent. was given. Mr. Peacocke was one of the first landlords in the county during the agitation to give a liberal abatement to his tenants. He visited the estate in that period, and minutely inquired into each grievance, with the result that since a happy feeling exists between him and his tenantry.

### TIPPERARY.

The recent rainfall in Roscrea district was terrific in its duration and heaviness. It literally converted the country into lakes on enormous tracks of arable land, and destroyed hundreds of acres of turnips and marigolds ready for gathering. The Nore and its tributaries on the Queen's county side, and the Brunna, on the King's and Tipperary, are enormously swollen, and floating on their rushing waters evidence was seen of the damage done to farm produce, live stock and dwellings. Thousands of acres of bog land have been rendered unworkable, and it is expected that they will remain in this state until the spring, throwing many hundreds of persons out of employment.

James Bourke, a river boatman, was found dead in his barge moored to the quay, in Carrick-on-Suir, on Nov. 30.

A meeting of the citizens of Cashel was held in the Town Hall last week for the purpose of floating a company to run a railway from Cashel to Cashel. The people are unanimous, as the city is decaying for the want of railway communication.

### WATERFORD.

Mr. Henry Galager has been elected Mayor of Waterford city for 1898.

## ULSTER.

### ANTRIM.

Rev. P. Scully, C. C., delivered the inaugural address of the Sessions of the Ballymena Literary and Debating society, in the National Schoolrooms, Cuskendale road, the subject being "The Volunteers of 1782."

A public conference of farmers under the auspices of the Ulster Farmers' Defense association was held in Central hall, Rosemary street, Belfast, during the week, in relation to the working of the Royal commission on the land acts. Mr. M. A. Kennedy, Glarryford, president of the association, presided.

### ARMAGH.

An interesting and instructive lecture was delivered in the Tontine buildings, Armagh, by Mr. C. H. Oldham, L. Barrington lecturer. Subject "The Currency Question in Europe and America." Rev. D. Miller, M. A., on the motion of Mr. Patrick Lavery, solicitor, seconded by Mr. Fanning, presided.

The children of the schools of Armagh were examined in religious knowledge according to the program for the archdiocese. The children have to answer in Christian doctrine, the use of the beads and prayer book and on religious reading books, this examination taking the place of the work done by the ecclesiastical inspectors in some other places. The examiners were Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland; Very Rev. Michael Canon O'Brien, Loughgall; Very Rev. Michael Canon Coyne, Keady; Rev. Hugh McCoscar, Moy; Rev. Patrick McRory, Middletown; Rev. John Quinn, Adm.; Rev. Patrick Fagan, Rev. Michael Quinn, Armagh; Rev. Patrick Kenny, Rev. Thomas O'Neill, Loughgall; Rev. Thomas Markey, Moy; Rev. Michael O'Brien, Stonebridge; Rev. Patrick Vallely, Keady; Rev. Thomas McParland, Ballymacnabb; Rev. Anthony McDonald, Middletown; Rev.

Hugh Teggart, Calodon, and Rev. Bernard O'Connor, Fortadown. The result was considered satisfactory.

### CAYAN.

Among the names of the persons whose deaths have been reported were those of John Shell, Holborn Hill, Belurbet, whose interment was in the cemetery of Drumalee, and Catherine Smyth, Lattylow, Cootehill, who died Nov. 30. Interment in Middle Chapel.

### DERRY.

Alderman I. B. Johnson has been re-elected mayor of Derry for 1898.

A man named McGuigan and his wife, while returning to their home from Maghera last week, were most brutally beaten by persons unknown. Their lives are in jeopardy. The greatest indignation is felt by the inhabitants of the districts at the cowardly and un-Christian treatment of the McGuigans.

### DONEGAL.

John Sweeney, merchant, Ballyshannon, was recently married to Catherine Connolly, Ballyhy, County Sligo.

McGladie and Clements, inspectors of National Schools, examined the pupils in charge of the Sisters of Mercy Ballyshannon, and expressed themselves pleased with the answering and exercise of the children. They paid a high compliment to the sisters for their teaching in the kindergarten and cookery classes. This is the first time the nuns presented children for examination in cookery, and the result was very satisfactory. Twenty pupils were presented and each had to prepare a separate dish under the inspectors' supervision.

### FERMANAGH.

A meeting of the Fermanagh tenants of the Commissioners of Education was held in Derrylester on Sunday. Mr. Francis Bellly presided. In explaining the object of the meeting, the chairman said they met to consider the action of the Estate Committee in recommending the refusal of the abatement to tenants who did not receive benefit from the judicial reductions, and also to express condemnation of their action in refusing to recommend the acceptance of the tenants' offer to purchase at seventeen years' rental. The chairman, in the course of his remarks, read the following extract from the annual report of the Commissioners of Education to his excellency the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland: "For the year to November, 1898, we have authorized abatements on our Fermanagh and Tyrone estates of 15 per cent. to non-judicial tenants." The following resolution was proposed by Mr. Murphy, Drumbrughas, and seconded by Mr. Patrick Droogan, and passed unanimously: "That we condemn the action of the Estate Committee in recommending the refusal of the tenants' offer to purchase their holdings at seventeen years' rental, and also their action in allowing the abatement of 15 per cent. to be withheld from tenants who had served originating notices."

### KILMARE.

At the last meeting of the Naas Guardians, Mr. J. O. Whyte presiding, Mr. Edward Doyle called attention to the condition of the graveyard at Kerdiffstown, and asked if the Guardians had power to fence it in. The clerk (Mr. William Farrell) said the graveyard was in Mr. Aylmer's domain, and outside the authority of the Burial Board. Mr. Doyle—Can we make him repair the fence? It is fearful. Rabbits and cattle and everything are in it. Clerk—If Mr. Aylmer were asked I am sure he would do it. Mr. McDonald said he had been speaking to Mr. Aylmer, and he promised to fence it in. Mr. Aylmer, however, had either forgotten or neglected to do this. The skulls were actually torn out of the graves by rabbits. Mr. McDonald said the headstones were mere scratching posts for cattle. The graveyard was in a terrible state, not only unsanitary, but un-Christian. It was decided to call Mr. Aylmer's attention to the place, and to request him to put the fence in repair.

Sunday, Nov. 28, the bell lately erected in the parish church, Ballinderry, was consecrated by Cardinal Logue. The parish priest, Rev. J. McCoskey, obtained a sweet toned caller to prayer. The sermon was preached by Rev. Father McElvogue of Armagh, after which a collection amounting to £60 was taken up.

### MONAGHAN.

An inquest was held last week into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Charles McKenna, farmer and cattle dealer, who was found dead in a drain in Drumskerara last week. Verdict, accidental death by drowning. The death of Mrs. Stephen Murphy, Cornanagh House, Ballybay, occurred on Nov. 28. Interment inullyearbet cemetery. Funeral was largely attended.

sticks, things 1898 a Phone Call dies Per 25c. Pu 561 S H L U 100 Deal Lumber Yards on Me Gives th Office 40 Nort Manufact Wi 180 Plat Cor. K Dor Sick Out THE OFFICE SACRAMENT INITIATION DEPENDS ON CHECK OR BAR Established 71