

OUR IRISH LETTER

NEWS FROM ALL THE COUNTIES OF IRELAND.

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

CONNAUGHT.

GALWAY.

Inspector-General of the royal Irish constabulary has awarded a first-class special record to Sergeant Cummins of Ballingarry for conspicuous gallantry in saving the lives of Michael and James Tracey in the old dock near Portumna Bridge a short time ago.

It is alleged that Michael Glennon, 38 years of age, a small farmer, had been killed during the course of a row at Duamore on Saturday. John Noonan, Bartley Davis, John Walsh have been arrested in connection with the affair.

On Monday a deputation of the townspeople of Loughrea, consisting of Rev. J. O'Donovan, J. L. Rorke, manager of National bank, John Duffy, D. L. R. I. O. Michael Sweeney and Thomas Mulkern, waited upon the Rev. R. J. Meagher, P. P., of Mullagh, late administrator of Loughrea, and presented him with an address and handsome testimonial. Father Meagher labored for 18 years as curate and administrator in the parish, and left a short time ago to enjoy his well-deserved promotion to the spiritual charge of the important parish of Mullagh.

On Sunday last a meeting of the Independent party was held in Tuam. A convention of the party was held in the new room of the town hall, attended by Mr. Patrick O'Brien, M. P.; M. O. Shine, P. G. Kelly, Frs. Keane, Wm. Joyner, Tim Fahy, Wm. Kelly and other prominent members of the Independent party. While the convention was being held a large contingent of the Galway Parnellite club arrived on the square, and their splendid band played some stirring airs. Meantime the large hall was being filled, and when Mr. O'Brien, M. P., and his friends ascended the platform they were received with ringing cheers. The proceedings were most enthusiastic.

LEITRIM.

With regret we record the death of Mrs. McQuibbin, which took place on Thursday last at Clontarf, at the age of 80 years. Deceased was a sister of Mr. M. McGarry and the funeral, which took place on Sunday last, was largely attended. Interment took place at Clonmorris. Rev. Father Cahill officiated.

The preliminaries in connection with the sale of the Albemarle property, Drumsna, under the land acts, have been completed. It has been announced that the houses and plots in the town which are portion of the estate, are to be sold at public auction.

MAYO.

At recent meeting of the Ballinrobe Board of Guardians, Mr. A. Martin in the chair, Mr. Heneghan, the relieving officer for the mountain district, submitted the names of 20 farmers, who had applied for relief. The number in family ranged from nine to four. He stated they were all in a very miserable condition. One wrote to him that he was on his bed two weeks, starving. He had received a letter from Father James Ryan, which read: "I visited Mrs. McGing. She and her three children have no food or means to buy it." Mr. Heneghan: "The unfortunate people are in an awful way. They are starving. I do not think I ever saw such misery. The government should do something." The chairman: "We can only offer them the house." Col. Knox: "The whole place will be swamped with taxes next year. I never saw this union in such a state, financially."

BOSCOMMON.

Mr. James Watson, jr., Boyle, has passed the final tests at the recent examinations in Edinburgh, and obtained the diploma of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. Miss Watson obtained the degree of Bachelor of Arts of the Royal University of Ireland.

Mrs. John Priest, Chapel street, Boyle, died recently. Her remains were removed to St. Joseph's church, and the funeral to the family burial ground at Asslin, on Sunday, was one of the largest and most representative seen in Boyle for a number of years.

Clontarf, near Ballinlough, was recently visited by burglars and the premises of Martin McDonnell were entered and £120 and the books burned.

SLIGO.

The weekly meeting of the Sligo

Catholic Institute took place on Wednesday evening, the Rev. R. Geraty presiding. The program consisted of readings, recitations, dialogues and songs.

The distribution of exhibits and prizes awarded to the people of the Ursuline convent, Sligo, took place in the recreation room late. Most Rev. Dr. Clancy presided.

During the week a banquet was given at the palace, Sligo, by Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Elphin, in honor of Most Rev. Dr. Lyster, bishop of Achonry, on his silver jubilee. All the priests of the Cathedral and Presbytery were present, as well as several members of the lay community.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, raised the following to holy orders in the cathedral, Carlow, a few days ago: Deaconship—Rev. John Cantillon, San Francisco; Rev. Michael Hayden, vicar of Wales. Subdeaconship—Rev. James O'Reilly, Gibraltar; Rev. Michael Clifford, San Francisco; Rev. Michael Coffey, Dubuque; Rev. Patrick Flynn, Dubuque; Rev. Patrick Lyons, St. Louis; Rev. Andrew Killian, Wilcania.

Mr. P. J. Power, M. P., was seriously ill recently, but now is almost restored to his normal condition of health. Died—Dec. 11, at 21 Long's place, Grand Canal Harbor, Dublin, Anne, widow of the late James Byrne of Carlow. Dec. 18, at Clonmel, James Doyle, Grange, Tullow, County Carlow aged 46 years. Walter Hovendon, at Skehena, on Dec. 18, 1897. Dec. 14, 1897, at Patrick's Well, Bathvilly, Edward Lawler.

The death of Rev. Mother Tracy of the Carmelite convent, Tallow, took place at St. Joseph's Carmelite convent, after a long and painful illness. She was conscious to her death scene and joined in the recital of the Angelus a few minutes previously, surrounded and consoled by the fervent prayers of the devoted community. She attained the age of 81 years, having passed her golden jubilee six years ago, and being a professed nun 55 years. She was a sister of Revs. Patrick, Thomas and John Tracy, D. D., three clergymen of the diocese of Waterford, and daughter of Declan Tracy of Plitown house. She was interred after the solemn requiem high mass, celebrated by the parochial clergy of Tallow, assisted by Very Rev. Canon Neville, P. P., Conna, and the priests of the surrounding centres. Among the chief mourners were Messrs. M. G. Tracy, Youghal and J. T. Condon, Templevalley, Tallow.

DUBLIN.

Michael Murphy, who lived in the West road, off the North Strand, died suddenly a few days ago under tragic circumstances. The new Drumcondra Link Railway is being made through the district, and to make way for the line a great number of houses have to be thrown down. Amongst others, Murphy, who had lived in Dublin sixty years, and who had reached a patriarchal age, got notice to leave his house in order that it could be pulled down. He refused to leave, however, and the law had to be put into operation. On Monday balliffs went to put out the old man, and when they appeared he fell dead at their feet. The incident created a sensation in the neighborhood.

The Right Hon. Daniel Tallon, the Lord Mayor of Dublin, has favored Mr. Bernard Goulding, of 84 Marlborough street, with the order for the entire outfit for his chaplain, Rev. Edward Dunne, C. C., Rathmines. One of the stipulations was that everything should be of Irish manufacture, and as most of the garments are of Irish poplin, his order will do a little toward helping along a decaying industry in Ireland.

An interesting concert under the auspices of the Musical and Elocutionary society took place in the club hall of the Catholic Commercial Club, Dublin, last week. There was a very large attendance. The program was varied and attractive.

Recent deaths in Dublin.—Kelly—Dec. 18, at Skaunraue, Bagnalstown, Honoria Kelly. Ledwidge—Dec. 19, at 14 Ellis quay, Dublin, Michael Ledwidge, aged 79 years. Finegan—Dec. 15, Mrs. Margaret Finegan, 47 Summer Hill, aged 68 years. Green—Dec. 16, at 14 North Brunswick street, George Green, member of the Bakars' association, deeply regretted. Harle—Dec. 16, at 174 Phibborough Road, Joseph Harle. Barnard—Dec. 14, at 4 Mount View, Belmont avenue, Donnybrook, William Williams Barnard, late Postoffice surveyor for the northern district of Ireland, aged 80 years. Brennan—Dec. 14, at Blackhall parade, Mary Brennan, daughter of Christopher

Kavanaugh, car owner. Colgan—Dec. 16, at Cappagh, Enfield, Teresa Colgan. Conroy—Dec. 16, at 10 Heytesbury street, Catherine Conroy, (Lynch & Conroy), 87 Dame street. Dillon—Dec. 22, suddenly, Thomas Dillon, 4 Church street, North Wall. Kelly—Dec. 21, at Ballyconnell, Rose Anne Kelly, aged 59 years, wife of Bernard Kelly, Hotel Ballyconnell. Tallon—Dec. 19, at 1 Fitzwilliam lane, James Tallon, Frederick lane. Furlong—Dec. 21, at Palace, Mary Furlong of Raheen, at an advanced age. Reilly—At 16 Kenmare parade, N. C. R. Joseph Reilly, compositor, aged 50 years. Murphy—Dec. 19, at 8 Cessborough terrace, west road, north strand, Piers Murphy. Nelson—Dec. 19, at 12 Grove park, Cathminee, Elizabeth Mary Nelson, aged 16 years. O'Connor—Dec. 19, at 21 Bolton street, Theresa O'Connor. Phillips—Dec. 19, at 4 Deane street, Peter Phillips, third son of the late Bernard Phillips of Garrybrae, County Wexford.

KILKENNY.

Mr. James Farrell, Kilmacow, has been unanimously elected a member of the committee of the Ivork Farming society.

At Urlingford Guardians Mr. Houghton, J. P., proposed: "That in the opinion of this meeting it is imperative on all Irishmen of all political parties to join in the effort now being made by the Irish Financial Reform League to redress the undue burden of taxation, which, after investigation by Royal Commission, is found to press unduly on the resources of Ireland." Mr. D. Kavanaugh seconded the resolution, which was adopted. Mr. Houghton also proposed the following, which was adopted: "That it is the opinion of this meeting there is no justification for delay in dealing with the financial grievance of Ireland as disclosed by the report of the late Royal Commission on the plea of appointing another commission, which, in our judgment, is unnecessary."

On Thursday Dr. Smith, coroner, held an inquest on the body of Edward Dunne, Clongorey, who died suddenly while returning from the fair of Newbridge. He was at the fair with his employer, Henry Lynam, selling cattle. In the evening they started for home together and deceased got up in a cart which one of his friends had at the fair. After awhile he got down and walked for about a quarter of a mile, when he remounted the cart accompanied by a man named Nolan. They chatted together and drove on, leaving their friends behind. When their friends came up with the cart again, they found Nolan and Dunne asleep, apparently, but when they came to Nolan's house and tried to waken Dunne they found he was dead. The deceased had been declining for years, but hadn't been attended by a doctor for three years. A verdict of death from natural causes was found.

On Saturday, in his 34th year, Mr. Michael Delaney, Blandsfort, Ballyroan, died.

On Monday an eviction took place at Ballylea, near Colinstown. The proceedings were at the suit of the National bank against Mr. Taylor. According to Mr. Owen Cogan, who was at the eviction, the value of the farm on which the money was lent does not exceed £500, while a rent to the amount of £200 is due to the landlord, Capt. Pennyfather. The extraordinary difference between the value of the farm and the amount lent is explained by Mr. Taylor, who says that nearly all the money was interest on a small sum borrowed years ago. The sub-sheriff, Mr. Armstrong, who was accompanied by 10 policemen, under command of Sergeant Moore of Balinglass, proceeded to execute the warrant; but owing to negotiations for a settlement, going on for several hours, the eviction was postponed to next day. There was no disturbance or excitement. Most of Mr. Taylor's property was removed to Dunlavin by his sympathetic neighbors.

KING'S.

Mrs. Mary Dunn of Kilmogue house Portlarrington, died Dec. 19, 1897. Interment was in Templestran cemetery. Funeral cortege long.

Two brothers named Murray were ferrying turf at Clonmacnoise when the turf-boat, after being pushed off from the bank, began to take water rapidly. One of the brothers, in the stern, found the bottom with the pole, and making a spring, succeeded in reaching shallow water. The other, John Murray, was drowned in the presence of brother and sister.

LONGFORD.

Madame Edgeworth, wife of Antonio E. Edgeworth, Edgeworthstown, has been elected, unopposed, for the Edgeworthstown Division of the Grand Union, vacant by the death of the late

Mr. Thomas Flotory.

LOUTH.

Mr. Peter Conolly, town clerk, Drogheda, has been dismissed for unseemly conduct toward members of the board during meetings, it is alleged. The motion for dismissal was made by Mr. Thomas Dickson and seconded by Alderman Jordan. It was adopted, nine voting against.

MEATH.

A largely attended and representative meeting was held in the Town hall, Kells, last week, for the purpose of forming a branch of the Irish Financial Reform League. Major Everard presided.

QUEEN'S.

Mr. P. J. Corcoran, auctioneer, Athy put up for sale in Athy court house, a farm of land belonging to Mr. Barber, Loughglass, situated between Athy and Luggacurren. The holding consisted of 61 Irish acres, at a rent of £32 per year, payable to the Irish land commission. The place was sold to Mr. J. Dunne, an evicted tenant of the Luggacurren estate, for £380, being a considerable advance upon the price at which the holding was disposed of some time ago.

WEXFORD.

On Sunday evening a deputation from the Castlebridge reading room association, waited on Rev. Thomas O'Connor, St. Peter's college, Wexford, and presented him with an address and testimonial in recognition of the valuable services which he rendered to them during his stay in Castlebridge parish. Rev. D. J. Lyne, Castlebridge, introduced the deputation, which consisted of Andrew Lennon and Edward Leary, hon. sec.; John Roche, hon. treasurer, and George Brien and James French. There were also present Very Rev. E. T. Sheridan, president of St. Peter's college, and the following members of the college staff: Rev. Wm. Codd, Rev. W. Harpur, Rev. J. Donovan. In the address which was read, the members of the reading room expressed their regret and sorrow at the departure of Father O'Connor from amongst them, and asked him to accept the accompanying small present as a token of their high appreciation of his services. Father O'Connor suitably replied.

Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns has raised to the dignity of Canon Very Rev. Wm. Whitty, Lady's Island; Very Rev. Thomas Hora, Oylgate; Very Rev. James O'Brien, Ballymurrin. The following clerical changes have been made: Rev. T. M. Ryan, C. C., Horsewood, to be C. C. of Galbally Bree, vice the late Rev. P. M. O'Leary; Rev. A. O'Brien, who has been recently ordained, to be C. C. of Horsewood, and Rev. David O'Hanlon Walsh, to be C. C. of Kiltely, in the room of the late Rev. A. Murphy.

Died.—Gettings—At Mocolyle, William Gettings at an advanced age. Murphy—Dec. 11, at Kiltely, Rev. Andrew Murphy, in the twelfth year of his sacred ministry. Murphy—Dec. 9, Patrick Murphy, Island road, Banniscothy, aged 33 years. McDonald—On Dec. 16, at Faythe, Wexford, William McDonald, aged 52 years, for twenty-five years engineer to the Wexford Harbor commissioners. Mayler—Dec. 15, at Harristown, Mary J. Mayler. Nowlan—Dec. 9, at Birmlingham, aged 75, Mr. Gregory Nowlan, formerly of Rosbercon, New Ross. O'Leary—Oct. 11, at Galbally Bree, in his 48th year, Rev. P. M. O'Leary, C. C. Power—On Sept. 5, at the State school residence, Taroom, Queensland, Australia, Ellen Mary Power, nee Kerwin, formerly of Barrack street, Wexford, aged 48 years, dearly beloved wife of R. M. Power. White—Dec. 12, at 25 Haddington road, Dublin, Charles G. (Paddy), second son of the late Wm. White, of Redmond house, Wexford.

WICKLOW.

A new Ross deputation, headed by the Very Rev. Dr. Kavanaugh, traveled to Ballycurry, the residence of Col. Tottenham, to give his eldest daughter, Miss Catherine Isabel Tottenham, on the occasion of her approaching marriage with Capt. Casement, R. A. county Wicklow, a beautifully illuminated address and silver plate, etc., to the value of £200, the gifts of his tenantry in the whole town of New Ross.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

The unfortunate land dispute between Mr. John Frost, Six-Mile-Briggs, and his landlord, Mr. D'Este, which has existed for years, was discussed by the Ennis Board of Guardians, with a view, if possible, to effecting a settlement. The matter was introduced at the instance of the Rev. Father Little parish priest of Six-Mile-Briggs. Father Little went into a detailed state-

ment of the facts and asked the guardians to use their good offices to bring about an arrangement by which the tenant might be reinstated. A resolution was unanimously passed asking Mr. D'Este to do so, and a deputation was appointed to wait on him.

To investigate the extent of the distress in West Clare among the small farmers and working classes Major Jameson, M. P., arrived in Kilmursh last week and went through the division he represents in parliament to obtain a personal knowledge of the extent of the failure of the crops. This, after a careful inquiry, he has obtained, and will do his utmost to force the government to come to the rescue of the people before it is too late.

CORK.

The remains of Mrs. Buckley, the much esteemed wife of Mr. Abel Buckley of Galtee Castle, Mitchelstown, were conveyed to Dublin en route for Manchester, where the interment took place in the family vault in Dunkinfield cemetery.

Ordinations to the priesthood were held in the chapel of the Convent of the Sisters of Charity, St. Mary's road, Cork, Dec. 21. Most Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, Bishop of Cork, ordained the Rev. John Sexton of Maynooth and the Rev. Richard O'Sullivan of the Irish college, Paris. The Very Rev. C. McGrath, Adm., Cathedral, and the Rev. P. Tracey, Cathedral, assisted. A large number of the friends of the young priests witnessed the impressive ceremony.

KERRY.

A meeting of the committee of the Killarney School of Arts and Crafts was held at Killarney house on Friday. Present: Viscount Castlerosse, Viscountess Castlerosse, Messrs. Duckett, J. W. Leahy, F. McDonough, T. T. O'Connor, O'Keeffe, Jerome O'Leary, V. J. Turner and John MacGillcuddy, treasurer. The report of the committee having been read was adopted. The report is of a very encouraging nature and testifies to the great benefit this school bestows upon the neighborhood. There are more applicants for admission than the present accommodation allows. Work of a high standard has been done by the pupils and awards of "unusual merit" have been received at the Great Home Arts and Industries exhibition, Albert Hall, London. Her Majesty, the Queen, and H. R. H. the Duchess of York, have made purchase from the charming and artistic examples of carving and cabinet-making executed in the workshops.

LIMERICK.

Mr. James Kelly, Murnane, Stoneville, and his son were blasting stones on their farm a few days ago, when a charge exploded and blew them several yards away. Mr. Kelly received such injuries that the right hand had to be amputated from the wrist. The son escaped uninjured.

Mrs. Shine, widow, who was evicted from her farm at Lesamote Castle, Ballingarry, in 1882, has been reinstated. Old rent £87. New rent £55. Mrs. William Barry of Elton, died recently at the comparatively early age of 42 years. Her remains were removed to the Knockany church, where office and high mass were offered for the repose of her soul.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mrs. Edward O'Connell, Wickham street, Limerick. Deceased, remarkable for her retiring disposition, was little known outside the circle of her immediate friends, by all of whom she is deeply regretted. She was a native of county Limerick and sister of Archbishop Hennessy of Dubuque, Iowa. High mass and office were celebrated in St. Michael's church Saturday morning, after which the funeral took place to Mt. St. Lawrence cemetery.

TIPPERARY.

The priests and people of Mullinahone, per O. Moloney, recently forwarded £15 to the trustees of the Evicted Tenants' fund.

Rev. W. J. Phelan, P. P., Orange and Ardfinane, recently forwarded £25 to the trustees of the Evicted Tenants' fund.

Mr. Henry Langley, Arherstown House, has just attained the age of 82 years. He is one of the best landlords in Tipperary. His great grandfather, Col. Langley, was the first that entered Clonmel in 1650, when the army of Cromwell besieged the town. On his attempt to scale the wall he lost his right hand by a stroke of a scythe delivered by one of the defenders. The colonel left it on top of the wall. The iron hand fixed on as a substitute is in the possession of Mr. George Langley, J. P., Coalbrook, near Ballingarry. For several years Mr. H. Langley kept a splendid pack of foxhounds, in fact one of the best in Ireland. He performed a most won-

derful feat of horsemanship, having ridden through a passage on Killough Hill, scarcely accessible to one at tempting to travel it on foot—a feat that will probably never again be attempted by any human being.

WATERFORD.

It is but a question of a few days as regards the death of the Dowager Lady Waterford. Everyone will be sorry to hear this. Her sons are in constant attendance at her house. Lord Charles Beresford is inconsolable.

The funeral of Mrs. David Grant of George's street, Waterford, took place last week, after office and high mass in St. Patrick's church. Interment was in Knockbo.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

The Mater hospital bazaar, lately held in Beitass, was most successful. The stalls, which were 18 in number, netted £19,624. Stall No. 5 alone took in £2,005.

ARMAGH.

The excellent program of music discoursed at the grand sacred concert in St. Patrick's church, Crossmaglen, on St. Stephen's day was fully appreciated by the people. Mr. Andrew Keane, organist of Whitefriars street Carmelite church, conducted the concert.

A meeting of the Lord Edward '98 club was held on Sunday night in the Foresters' hall, Armagh. Mr. Wm. John McKernan presided.

CAVAN.

Hugh Brody, aged 70 years, was accidentally killed by falling from a car.

DERRY.

The anniversary of the shutting of the gates (it would not have been a calamity if they were never opened after) was celebrated in Derry on Saturday. The demonstration was one of the poorest. Rockets were discharged from the Apprentice Boys' hall, which overlooks a Catholic locality. The rocket tubes were fixed on iron rods, and one of these penetrated a roof in the Catholic quarter. Much excitement was caused. The danger caused by iron rods coming down in a populous district is obvious. The constabulary are endeavoring to discover those who let off the dangerous fireworks.

DONEGAL.

Mr. John Welsh, Mountcharles, presented as an offering two life size statues, one of the Sacred Heart and one of the Immaculate Conception, to the Ardaghey church, Inver, a few days ago. The statues are beautiful specimens of artistic workmanship. It is mainly to his munificence the people of Mountcharles now have the handsome church in that village. In every part of the diocese where the religious zeal of bishop and of clergy discovers the need for further church accommodation Mr. Welsh's substantial help and kindly encouragement may always be relied on.

I. M. Hewitt, district inspector of police, died in Buncrana on Dec. 17.

One after the other the old ones are passing away. The latest addition to the great majority is Paul Doogan of Knather. He was one of the oldest natives, having reached the ripe age of 88 years. He was a great fisherman. The funeral was followed to the Abbey graveyard by a large concourse of persons.

DOWN.

Rev. William McGalliard, who was ordained in Downpatrick some months ago, died in South Africa. His mother was a sister of Dr. Macaulay, Manooch. Sincere regret was expressed at his demise all over the country.

We regret to record a serious accident that happened to the Rev. Cornelius Woods, Warrenpoint. He went out to visit parishioners in Burren, and on his way home the animal stumbled and fell on the road near Lagan farm and precipitated the rider to the ground. Father Woods' head came in contact with the road and rendered him unconscious.

FERRANAGH.

The fortnightly meeting of the Smyth, Connolly and McMahon '98 club in Roslea, was held on Saturday. Mr. D. Murray in the chair.

TYRONE.

Pat Quinn has just died in a remote district of the Tyrone mountains. He had attained the age of 108 years. Deceased retained possession of his mental faculties to the last.