

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.

The quarterly meeting of the Tuam branch of the National Teachers' Association, was held last week. Mr. Fitzgerald, Cahernorris, presided. Among the recent deaths in Galway were Mrs. David Kayce, Tuam; Mr. Kearney, Glénamaddy.

Mr. E. J. Hannan of Clifton house, Loughrea, has been appointed organizer for the Irish Financial Reform League for south and west.

Dr. Crowley, coroner for Loughrea district, last week held an inquest on the body of James O'Brien, a farmer, aged 76, who was killed at Athenry railway station on Saturday night. Deceased was crossing the railway bridge when he lost his footing and fell forward. He was picked up unconscious and expired on Sunday night.

We regret to record the death of Sister Monica Flatley at the Presentation convent Galway. Sister Monica was daughter of the late Mrs. Flatley, the Castle. She reached the advanced age of 79 years. There was a solemn high mass for the repose of her soul, the Very Rev. Father Lally, celebrant.

From the jewelry establishment of Mr. Dillon of William street, Galway, was lately sold a clock made from a model of the kind of timekeeper used in 1640. It is a wonderful piece of mechanism. There are only three wheels altogether, and instead of a pendulum there is on top of the clock a balancing rod, on each end of which hang two moveable weights, of diminutive size, which act as regulators should the clock go slow or fast. The dial is an ornament in itself and is besides a perfect work of art. There is only one hand to denote the hour and the minutes can only be calculated by the distance the hand is from the figures on the dial. There is only one weight and this is a small block of granite suspended by a thick rope from the main wheel, and is wound up by the ordinary way. The strangest feature in the clock is that it is all wood except the granite weight. It was made in Mr. Dillon's establishment and is admired by a number of persons daily.

Widespread regret was evinced Feb. 13 when it became known that the Rev. Father Alban Furlong, O. D. C., had passed peacefully away. Father Alban belonged to one of the most respectable Catholic families in Galway who resided within the parish of Loughrea. Deceased was born on the 24th of March, 1846, and the house in which he spent the earlier part of his life is but across the waters of the lake. He made his novitiate in Brussels and was professed on the first of May, 1867, at the age of 21 years. He studied philosophy in Bruges and theology in Bagnères-de-Bigorre, from whence he was expelled among the other Carmelites who had to fly from France. He finished his studies in London and was ordained priest on St. Patrick's day, 1872, by His Eminence Cardinal Manning. Father Alban was a powerful and eloquent preacher. Shortly after his ordination he delivered his first sermon in St. Teresa's church, Clarendon street, Dublin. He never enjoyed very robust health, and the demise of his brother, Rev. James Furlong, the revered parish priest of Carabane, some years ago, took such a serious effect on him that he scarcely ever talked. Solemn requiem high mass was celebrated at 11 o'clock on Tuesday, Feb. 15, after which the interment took place within the quiet ruins of the old convent, Loughrea.

LEITRIM.

At the meeting of the Manorhamilton guardians a few days ago there attended Messrs. J. Dolan, O'Donnell, Fallon, McMorrow, Gilgan. The chairman informed the board that a legacy of £10,000 had been left a man named Mullanagh, who was a tramp in the house.

MAYO.

Nine hundred and fifty-seven persons were in receipt of outdoor relief in Westport Union district a few weeks ago, and there was every indication that an increase would take place. This sad condition is not the result of indolence; but the direct result of misgovernment by the British government.

Mr. Rev. Dr. McEvilly, archbishop of Tuam, has appointed Rev. Father Fallon, president of St. Jarlath's college, Tuam, to the pastoral charge of

Knock, in room of the lamented Father Cavanagh. Father Fallon is to be succeeded at St. Jarlath's by the Rev. Father McHugh, late of Bekan.

Rev. James Corbett, pastor of Partry, is doing herculean work in the interest of the suffering parishioners. He has received numerous and considerable donations for the support of his stricken people, and has given \$500 to the Congested Districts board to select seeds suitable to the soil.

The United Irish League has been established in Mayo—Mayo, the home of the historic Land League. Perhaps days like unto those of Land League times are not remote, certainly, the presence of the "Royal Irish" points in that direction.

On Thursday a meeting of the Provisional Organizing committee of the United Irish League was held at the league rooms, James street, Westport, for the purpose of receiving reports from the several organizers as to the enrollment of members to make arrangements for the future working of the organization. There was an extraordinary display of the police force, large numbers being drafted into the town from all the surrounding districts, and from Ballinrobe, Ballina and other towns. The district Inspector of Police at Ballinrobe arrived in charge of forty-five men fully armed, and presenting quite an imposing display. Nobody seemed to understand what all these extraordinary precautions were for. During the day there was not the slightest disorder. The meeting of the Organizing committee was held at 2.30 p. m., and for some time previously knots of police stationed themselves in the several gateways of the street, commanding a view of the approaches to the league rooms, and a note was made of the delegates as they entered.

ROSCOMMON.

The demise of Miss Jane McDermott Boyle, recently, was deeply and widely regretted.

On Sunday a public meeting of the people of Ballintubber was held for the purpose of organizing the '98 centenary movement. The meeting was a success in numbers and the spirit which pervaded it. Every shade of nationalism was represented, and political feuds were entirely forgotten. On motion of John Conroy, Michael Featherston took the chair.

Very Rev. Patrick Canon Kelly, pastor of Storkestown, died Sunday, Feb. 13, in the presbytery, in the 81st year of his age and 55th of his sacred ministry. He was born in the parish of Cloontruskert in May, 1817, and ordained in 1843 by Rt. Rev. Dr. Burke. He came of an old and respected County Roscommon family which has given many distinguished priests to the Church, among them were his grand-uncle, Father James Kelly, P. P., of Storkestown, whose name is known and honored and his uncle, Father John Healy, V. G., formerly P. P. of Kilbride. After his ordination, Father Kelly labored assiduously in Ballygar, in Tulisk, Elyhin and Boyle. He was raised to the dignity of canon in 1896 by the Most Rev. Dr. Clancy.

SLIGO.

A relief committee for the evicted tenants on the Tottenham estate was formed on Sunday at St. Mary's Glenferne. The officers: Rev. M. F. Keane, president; Denis McLoughlin, vice-president; Thomas Clancy, treasurer; John Kenny, secretary.

Messrs. P. Healy and M. B. Kelly were elected unanimously president and secretary of the Easkey branch of the National Teachers' association, of which M. J. Timlin, J. Hunter, P. M. Donagh, M. Healy, Mrs. M. Healy, Mrs. K. Flynn, J. Finnerty, M. Connolly and M. H. Kelly are members.

The Sligo Ladies' '98 club held a meeting in the mayor's parlor a few days ago. Over 50 were present. Lizzy Ouilisk and Mrs. Costello were appointed secretaries, Mrs. Shea was elected president, Mrs. Kilgannon, treasurer, and the following as a committee: Misses Kate Langan, Hanney and McTigue, and Mrs. Harte, Mrs. W. Mulligan, Mrs. A. Burke, Mrs. Keenan and Mrs. Dunne.

We regret to chronicle the demise of Mr. Thomas O'Connor, of Ardselagh. He had lived to the ripe old age of 78 years. His remains were conveyed to the family burying-ground, Kilaraght.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

The annual meeting of the Catholic Young Men's society of Carlow was held lately in the society's rooms, Raquet court. Father John Cullen presided.

Funeral obsequies of the late Rev. Daniel Byrne, P. P., Graigue. The Most Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, presided. The Rev. Arthur Murphy, Carlow, Graigue was celebrant.

DUBLIN.

On Friday, Feb. 11, the solemn ceremony of a religious profession was celebrated in the Convent of St. Teresa, Haroldscross, Dublin, when Miss Mary Pringle, only daughter of Mr. Peter Pringle of No. 3 Longwood avenue, S. O. road, received the veil of the Carmelite Order under the name of Sister Mary Brigid of St. Joseph. The Rt. Rev. Mgr. Fitzpatrick, V. G. P. P., officiated.

We deeply regret to announce the death of the venerable Archbishop Keogh, V. P. P., Balbriggan, which occurred Feb. 11. He had reached the fine age of 85 years. The Archbishop was a native of Dunlavin, county Wicklow, where he was born in 1814. His collegiate course at St. Patrick's college, Maynooth, gave promise of his distinguished clerical career. He was appointed to a metropolitan curacy in the historic parish of St. Michael and John's on his ordination in 1838 by the eminent Archbishop of Dublin, Dr. Murray. There he labored for 22 years. In 1860 he was appointed P. P. of Balbriggan by the late Cardinal Cullen and was finally raised to the rank of Archbishop of Glendalough by the present Archbishop of Dublin. Since 1848 he had the important task of compiling and revising the Irish Catholic directory in Latin and English. In 1860 he was selected by Archbishop Cullen, then in Armagh, and Archbishop Murray, as master of ceremonies at the Maynooth synod.

Recent deaths in Dublin.—Metcalfe—Feb. 12, Catherine, wife of George Metcalfe, Willbrook, Rathfarnham. Smyth—Feb. 12, at 20 Chamber street, Ellen Smyth. Thomas—Feb. 12, at Jarvis street hospital, Mr. Thomas. Tukey—Feb. 13, Enfield Maryanne Tukey. Brady—Feb. 13, Thomas Charles G. Brady. Bryne—Feb. 12, at 26 Angier street, Margaret Bryne, formerly of Tinahely, Co. Wicklow, aged 21 years. Taffe—Feb. 8, Margaret Taffe, 47 Church street. Wallace—Feb. 8, at 3 Newport terrace, Donnybrook, Michael Patrick. Murtagh—Feb. 15, at the Green Swords, Mrs. Margaret Murtagh, aged 80 years. Savage—Feb. 15, at 8 Rutland square, East, Rebecca Mary Savage. Stafford—Feb. 15, at the Hospice for the Dying, Haroldscross, Mr. William Stafford. Barret—Feb. 8, at 17 Mount Pleasant place, Rathmines, Margaret Barret. Barron—Feb. 8, at Our Lady's hospice, Haroldscross, Edmund J. Barron, St. Bridget's Castleknock. Delahoye—Feb. 7, at 17 Rutland square, West, Frances Delahoye. Dunne—Feb. 8, at Kneadbridge Dennis Dunne, aged 32 years. Gormley Feb. 15, at Dodder house, London Bridge road, Sandymount, Richard Bernard Gormley. Kavanagh—Feb. 15, at 94 London Clonbrassil street, Bridget Kavanagh. Fleming—Feb. 13, at the Mater Misericordiae hospital, Eliza Fleming, third eldest daughter of the late James Swan.

KILDARE.

The impressive ceremony of the religious profession of a nun took place at the beautiful new church adjoining the convent at Clane, county Kildare lately. The novice who pronounced her solemn vows was Miss Margaret Byrne, in religion Sister Mary Bernard Joseph, only daughter of the late Garrett Byrne, Fennelcourt, Bagnalstown, county Carlow. The Most Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, performed the ceremony.

KILKENNY.

The corporation of the city of Kilkenny will hoist only an Irish flag on the municipal building in commemoration of the '98 centenary. Died.—On Jan. 14, at Portnaucully, Bridget Fleming, aged 22 years. The remains were removed for interment to Carrigeen graveyard on Sunday, the funeral cortege being the largest and most representative seen in the locality for many years.

KING'S.

Mr. Arnold Power, sub-sheriff, accompanied by a party of bailiffs, proceeded to Coolroos, last week, to carry out two evictions on the estate of Mr. W. Farrer, London. The first visited was George Morris, who tenanted 10 acres, and owed three years' rent and costs, amounting to £16. Morris and his family gave up possession. The house of John Donohue, who held 60 acres and owed two years' rent, was next visited and possession was formally taken. This tenant was re-admitted on certain conditions, but Morris would not be allowed back as caretaker. The evictions were carried out without any public demonstrations whatever. Oh! for the days of the Land League.

LONGFORD.

An immense meeting was held in Longford lately, to demand from the

Government a university system of education for the Catholics of Ireland. Rt. Rev. Dr. Hoare, bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise, presided.

LOUTH.

The Drogheda Board of Guardians at a recent meeting received a communication from Mr. Richard McGhee stating that he was in entire accord with the people on the question of having a Catholic university in Ireland.

MEATH.

The people of the county are doing splendid work in the matter of "The Financial Relations." Great meetings have been held in Oldcastle, Navan and other important parts, at which the gigantic fraud perpetrated on Ireland by overtaxation was eloquently and lucidly exposed.

Mr. Francis W. Blackburn was lately sworn in a high sheriff of the county of Meath.

QUEEN'S.

The Queen's County National Teachers' association held a meeting last week, when several resolutions of great importance to the national teachers were adopted. On the membership roll are: Messrs. O'Callaghan, O'Rourke, Dooley, Bates, Neeson, Murphy, O'Leary, Kavanagh, Curran, Mullarohy, Fennelly, Quinlivan, and Mrs. Kavanagh, the Misses O'Mara, Fitzpatrick and Lawlor.

WESTMEATH.

There are twelve baronies in the county, having a total area of 434,017 acres. Of these the most considerable is that of Forth, which contains over 49,000 acres. In 1841 Fore Barony had a population of 16,582 persons, but in 1891, when the last census was taken, its inhabitants numbered only 6,957. Under British rule there is not prosperity in Ireland and never can be.

WEXFORD.

At Arthurstown Petty Sessions last week John Duffin (evicted tenant) and James Murphy (lately shop assistant at Mr. Murphy's, Arthurstown), were charged "that they did enter the dwelling house of one Patrick Hanton and attack same and carry away certain moneys, namely, £132 10s. in gold, two sixpences in silver and eightpence in coppers, the property of said Patrick Hanton." After Hanton had given his evidence the accused were remanded for trial at coming Assizes in Wexford, March 17, but were allowed out on bail.

WICKLOW.

Mr. Robert Mullally, Lamenstown, who died lately, was one of the first to raise the flag of the Land League in West Wicklow. His funeral to Holywood, was one of the largest witnessed in the district for some time.

A meeting of the Blessington '98 Centenary association was held last week. Meetings for same purpose will be held in Lachen, Ballyknooken, Ballymorenastoe, Dunlavin and Blackditch.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

Mr. Gerald Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, in the House of Commons last week said representations had been received in reference to the partial failure of the potato crop in East Clare, but no reports had reached them proving that there is any exceptional demands for relief.

Rev. M. B. Curry, P. P., Bournea, gave a lecture on "America, and Our Kith and Kin Abroad" at the town hall, Keulish, lately. In addition to the lecture there was a concert. The reverend gentlemen treated the subject in a masterly, brilliant and humorous manner. The audience was delighted.

COBK.

An extraordinary occurrence took place Feb. 9, on the Ballinacorra river, between the water bailiffs, the Cork Fishery Conservators and the fishermen resident in that district. The launch under head water bailiff Prior had been cruising about the lower harbor to prevent drift-net fishing, and at about 9 o'clock two boats' crews were observed illegally fishing at Bennett's court. Immediately on the launch coming in view the poachers slipped their nets and pulled up the Ballinacorra river, the launch making hot pursuit. Rathcoursey had been almost reached when the chase terminated, for the poachers ran their boats ashore. As the launch shortly afterwards steamed in the direction in which the poachers had gone, the crew were surprised to see two boats pulling hard toward their vessel. The meaning was soon made clear, for they saw that the parties in the boats, by reason of the manœuvres, had determined on an attack. The

bailiffs prepared to defend themselves, leaving Bailiff David Creeman at the wheel. When the fishermen, sixty strong, of the people of the archdiocese of Armagh, reached the launch they made fast their boats and prepared to board her. To this the bailiffs offered resistance, but were soon overcome, and the party succeeded in gaining the deck. The head water bailiff was knocked down and his revolver taken from him and badly beaten and kicked. The other members of the crew were then set upon and fared badly, some of them receiving nasty injuries. The affray was a most protracted one, as it went on warmly for three hours. The man, David Creeman, who was deputed to care for the wheel, was roughly handled for refusing to quit and to permit the attackers to run the launch on the rocks and sink her. Not alone did the crew suffer at the hands of the party, but every portable article on board was thrown into the river, while the six oared boat attached to the little steamer was smashed. Having thus far completed their work the invaders retired.

W. Bowles, the deservedly popular landlord of Mogeely, was lately made the recipient of a handsome silver tray and a massive illuminated address by the people of Mogeely on the occasion of his recent marriage.

A '98 club was established last week in Glantane, parish of Klishanagh, the birthplace of the immortal Thomas Russell. As some historians have omitted giving Russell's birth place, it may be stated that he was born at Betsborough Dromahane, three miles from Mallow, on Nov. 21, 1867, and like most of the United Irishmen, he was a Protestant in religion. On Sunday a representative meeting of Nationalists was held, with the object of starting a '98 club to perpetuate the memory of Russell in a suitable manner.

At the Dispensary, Caherdaniel, Terrynane, the election of a successor to the late lamented Dr. Millarick took place.

The death of Very Rev. Canon O'Sullivan, parish priest of Dingle, happened on Sunday, to the great regret of his people. He had almost reached the great age of 90 years. With unflinching zeal he fought against the insidious attempts of the soup distributors to steal from their religion the people of Dingle during the great famine. Deceased was born in Kenmare and was a brilliant Irish scholar. Half his lifetime was spent amid the people of Dingle.

We deeply regret to have to chronicle the death of the Very Rev. Timothy O'Sullivan, V. P., administrator of Tralee parish. Canon O'Sullivan's death took place at the presbytery, Dingle, at 9.15, while his namesake and cousin breathed his last at the presbytery, Tralee, at 9.30. The Very Rev. T. Sullivan, administrator, Tralee, was aged 40 years. He was a native of Ardglola, county of Cork; was educated at the seminary, Killylarny, and the Irish college, where he was ordained in June, 1883. He spent five years in Westminster, London, a similar period in Killarney, and in October, 1894, was promoted to the charge of Tralee parish as administrator.

LIMERICK.

A most successful meeting of Limerickmen was held at 47 York street, Dublin, on Sunday for the purpose of forming a Limerickmen's '98 club in Dublin. Mr. James Dalton, Limerick, presided.

The death of Mr. E. H. O'Callaghan, took place on Feb. 11 at his residence, George street, Limerick, after an illness of considerable duration. Mr. O'Callaghan belonged to an old and respected family, his father, Mr. Eugene O'Callaghan, having been Mayor of Limerick many years ago.

TIPPERARY.

Rev. Michael Mackay, Marysville, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, who died a few days ago, was a native of Templemore, and from him not long ago the parish priest, Rev. Canon Meagher received a fine gold chalice for the use of the church. Office and high mass were offered for the repose of his soul in Templemore church. Present: Canon Meagher, Revs. M. J. Cleary, Patrick Murphy, W. Purcell and James Langan.

Rev. W. H. Oswald, Clogheen, died recently deeply regretted. He was a Home Ruler. As a mark of respect, rarely shown, the bell of the Catholic Church was tolled.

WATERFORD.

Rev. Walter Walsh, O. C., Sileverue, Waterford, has been reappointed to St. Canice's cathedral Kilkenny city. The people of Ferry Bank, in meeting assembled, passed a resolution of regret

at his leaving them. During many years he attended to their spiritual wants with unflinching zeal, while not forgetting their temporal interests, too. Among those who attended the meeting were S. Morris, M. P.; Edmond Phelan, William O'Sullivan, John Murphy and Captain Parle.

A meeting was held in the city hall, Waterford, recently, to demand a system of University education for the people of Waterford. Mr. Henry Granger, mayor of the city, presided

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

Members of the Emmet Literary and Debating society met in 12 Howard street, Belfast, last week, when Mr. James Burns delivered an interesting and eloquent lecture on Wolfe Tone.

The interment of Mrs. Higgins of Lignamonagh, took place in Glenravel cemetery, lately. The cortege was followed by a large concourse of sorrowing friends. Father Kennedy, who officiated, paid a touching tribute to her many virtues.

In Belfast manufacturing circles the chief topic of conversation is the proposal to effect an amalgamation of the principal flax spinning companies in the north of Ireland.

ARMAGH.

An important meeting in connection with the '98 movement was held in Keady on Sunday. Rev. Patrick Vallely presided.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Patrick McGeehan, wine and spirit merchant, Church place, Lurgan, which happened lately.

Cardinal Logue, primate of Ireland, has granted to the organizing committee of the Catholic university question the use of the new hall at St. Patrick's cathedral for the meeting. This beautiful building, recently completed, will then be used for the first time. It is the largest hall in the city. Delegates will attend from the fifty-five parishes in the archdiocese.

CAVAN.

Constable J. J. Foley, Arva, arrested Peter Kieran for deserting from the First Battalion Enniskillen Fusiliers. His tunic was found in a haystack, and articles of his clothing were also found in the possession of civilians. Peter does not care for serving in the Queen's forces, and all others of his nation should feel exactly like he does and skin.

DONEGAL.

The solicitors practicing in the county will shortly present a handsomely illustrated address to Mr. R. N. Barron, lately registrar of county Donegal.

Peter Gaffney, Uragh, near Kinlough died suddenly lately whilst tying on a load of hay.

Mr. Hugh Glides, Main street, Donegal, died suddenly recently. He was aged 45 years.

A melancholy death took place in Donegal lately. Mary McDyer, sister of St. Patrick's chapel on Main street for a lengthened period, while going through her own hall tripped and fell heavily on the flags. She succumbed to the injuries sustained soon afterwards.

DERRY.

A large representative meeting of the tenantry of the Marcor's estate, in the neighborhood of Swateragh, was held in the National hall last week for the purpose of considering an offer of 15 per cent reduction on the present rents. Messrs. T. A. Lytte and J. E. O'Neill, Maghera, attended to give advice and assistance. M. Lytte presided and explained the object of the meeting. Mr. O'Neill read statistics showing that the reductions made on various estates in the locality by the sub-commission varied from 23 to 30 per cent, and stated that the average reduction might be taken as 25 per cent, but they were nothing approaching what the circumstances warranted.

DOWN.

A '98 Centenary club, called after Betsy Gray has been established in Belfast. The address is 23 Arabia street.

FERMANAGH.

Bernard McManus and James McGonigal were prosecuted at Belleek Sessions last week for having guns without an excise license. They were fined £2 and costs each. The original fine was £10 each but was reduced.

Mr. Justice Meredith and Commissioner the Hon. Gerald Fitzgerald, Q. C., sat in the Enniskillen courthouse and continued the hearing on fair rent appeals.

THRONE.

The holder of the largest estate in this county is the Duke of Abercorn, having over 43,000 acres.

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NEWEST POCK

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