

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.

Thomas Spelman died suddenly in a house in Forster street, Galway, on April 7.

The Mansion house distress committee have devoted \$500 to have the pier at Dugort, Achill, repaired.

Mr. Patrick Glynn, Fearagh, Cahrlstrane, died recently, aged 45 years. Interment was in the New cemetery; cortege long.

The death of Mr. Francis McDermott, Barbersfort, occurred April 15 at the fine old age of 95 years, deeply regretted. Interment was in Killerrin, and the attendance was numerous.

A great meeting was held in Woodford recently to commemorate the famous period of '98. Among those who addressed the assembly were Father O'Flynn, who presided; Mr. Francis Tully, Looosan; Mr. F. J. O'Farrell, Mr. John Roche and many other patriots.

The weekly meeting of the Gaelic League was held on Sunday at the Monastery, Lombard street, Galway. Rev. R. Newell presided. The secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting in Irish, which were approved. The chairman addressed the meeting and referred to the rapid progress the movement had made in Galway during the past two years. The program consisted of songs, recitations and lectures in the mother tongue. The principal contributors were Messrs. Usher, O'Donnell, Downes and Redington.

With much regret we record the death, on April 10, of Mr. Patrick Conroy of Garafin. High mass was celebrated at the parish church; celebrant, Rev. M. D. Conroy, Spiddal; deacon, Rev. John M. Francis, Lettermore; sub-deacon, Rev. John Connolly, Killannin.

The annual conference of the clergy of Clonfert took place last week at St. Joseph's diocesan seminary, Esker. Solemn high mass was celebrated in the college chapel. Most Rev. Dr. Healy presided, accompanied by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Madden.

LEITRIM.

Mrs. Stephen Barrett, Meelick house, Kilmora, Drumsna, died April 23, aged 72 years. The funeral cortege to Killabogue was long.

The Boornacoola Oliver Bond club of the '98 centenary association has among its members Mr. Canning, Mr. Charles Burbag, Mr. S. Hayden, Mr. George Daly.

The Wolfe Tone club of Mohill has on its roll of members Thomas Dulgann, chairman, presiding; John Reynolds, treasurer; Thomas Canning, R. Ellis, Michael O'Connor, T. Hargarden, D. Casey, George Dobson, T. Reilly, T. McCottrick, John Doyle, J. Reynolds, P. Flynn and P. Dulgann.

MAYO.

Among the deaths recently reported were Mr. Patrick Clarke, postmaster, Bohola, aged 88 years; Mr. John Callaghan, Abbey street, Ardarae, aged 54 years; Mrs. Margaret Lungan, Arduckle road, Ballina, aged 86 years; Mr. Patrick Watters, Victualier, Castlebar.

A Kilmalme family was distressed and could not pay their rent on the Miller estate, and eviction threatened. Mr. Costello of Cloghansmore, with great kindness of heart, interested himself for the family, and aided by Father Loftus and his friends, Mr. Costello paid the amount to the agent, Mr. Francis O'Donel, who restored the man to his holding. Mr. Costello also supplied the tenant with seed and manures, and gave him a new start in life. This is a most praiseworthy act on the part of Mr. Costello, who is a gentleman of large heart.

ROSCOMMON.

The death of Mrs. Hague, Corker, Elphin, occurred recently. She was a member of an old family in the county.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mrs. MacDermot, mother of The MacDermot, at Alderford house, April 13. The funeral gave ample testimony to the esteem in which the deceased lady was held. Wreaths were sent by Lord Kingston and the Misses Fraser. The coffin bore the inscription: "Emilie MacDermot, Kilmora branch of '98 centenary club. A meeting was held on Sunday at 4 o'clock, Mr. Terence McLaughlin presiding. Others present: James O'Connell, Owen O'Donnell, Michael De-

herty, Thomas Beirne, Patrick Beirne, Patrick Glancy, J. J. Doyle, etc. Last mentioned is honorary secretary. The branch is doing good work in the Irish cause.

SLIGO.

The country is well to the front in honoring the memory of the men who died for Ireland in the historic days of '98. Sovey has its Matt Teeling club; Tubbercurry its Wolfe Tone club; also Killenuremy and Killaraga have their associations for the same laudable purpose.

The '98 convention held in Sligo lately was an unqualified success, having representatives from all the districts in the county.

Patrick McCarrick, aged 52, ship carpenter of Riverside, Sligo, was drowned recently in Clarence basin. Clarence dock, Liverpool, England. His demise leaves four children unprovided for, their mother having died previous to the drowning of their father.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

In the convent of Mercy chapel, Carlow, on Sunday, the Rev. James Fogarty of the diocese of Kildare, was raised to the priesthood by the Most Rev. Dr. Foley. Father Fogarty studied for some years at Carlow, but finished his studies at Maynooth.

The annual retreat held in St. Andrew's church, Bagnalstown lately, was a great spiritual revival. The morning and evening devotions were attended by great numbers that received Holy Communion made a most edifying example for the people of other parishes. Fathers Hughes and Murphy of the Jesuit order conducted the mission.

DUBLIN.

The meeting of the standing committee of the Irish Bishops was held April 23, in University college, Stephen's Green, Dublin. Cardinal Logue presided. Present: Right Rev. Dr. McCormack, bishop of Galway, Right Rev. John Healy, bishop of Clonfert; Right Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, bishop of Limerick; Archbishop Walsh, Dublin, and Archbishop McEvilly, Mann, were also in attendance. The bishops denounced as untrue the report that they had been conducting private negotiations with the government about the Irish Catholic University question. They requested the Irish members to oppose strenuously the passing of the estimates for the Queen's colleges until the government clearly and unqualifiedly agreed to bring in a measure granting a Catholic University. That portion of the Irish local government bill which prohibits the clergy of the country from holding office under it was protested against. Clergymen being citizens ought to be fully qualified to serve in any office under the new bill, though possibly they would never trouble to obtain seats on the different boards to be established.

Mr. John O'Connell of Clareville, Finglas road, recently received many kind letters of condolence with his family and himself on the death of Miss Sarah P. O'Connell, and he assures them of his deep appreciation of the kindly feelings shown towards his family and himself in their bereavement.

KING'S.

Mrs. Patrick Byrne, Main street, Portlanning, died April 24, aged 66 years, sincerely regretted by a numerous circle of friends. Interment was in Killeenard cemetery, funeral cortege long.

LONGFORD.

On Sunday, April 23, Rt. Rev. Dr. Hoare, bishop of Ardagh, laid the foundation stone of the new convent and schools in Edgeworthstown. They will be occupied by the Sisters of Mercy from St. Joseph's convent, Longford. The new schools will be dedicated to St. Elizabeth. Rev. Canon Martin is pastor. Rev. M. Phelan preached an eloquent sermon on the occasion. The building of the structure will cost about \$16,000. The site is on an eminence some little outside the town, commanding a magnificent prospect.

LOUTH.

Cardinal Logue last week visited the parish of Termonfeckin and administered the sacrament of Confirmation to many children. The priests of the parish, Fathers J. Segrave and J. Duffy, were complimented on the excellent answering of the little ones to the questions in the Christian doctrine.

MEATH.

Mrs. Julia D'Arcy, formerly of Athboy, died April 24, at 4 Thomas Davis street, Dublin. Interment was in Glasnevin.

John King was planting potatoes a few days ago at Summerbank, near Oldcastle, when he was taken ill suddenly and died.

Mrs. T. J. Mathews of Oldcastle was found dead in her bed last week from heart disease. Her husband died from the same cause one year ago.

QUEEN'S.

James Purcell of Clonagh died April 24. After office and high mass, interment was in Arles cemetery. Great numbers attended the funeral. Mr. Purcell was a road contractor.

William Hogan, shoemaker, Lyster's lane, Maryborough, died suddenly lately.

The quarterly meeting of the Maryborough Teachers' association was held last week. The following members attended: Messrs. Brown, chairman; Kane, vice chairman; Murphy, secretary; Curran, Mullarohy, Bates and Murphy. The principal business before the meeting was the election of a delegate to Congress. Proposed by Mr. Kane, seconded by Mr. Curran: "That Mr. Murphy be our delegate to Congress, '98."

WESTMEATH.

Billy Quinn, a well known news-vender at Enfield railway station, was lately burned to death in his house. How the fire originated is not known.

Under the new condition which will probably exist under the proposed Irish Government bill the boundary of the county Westmeath will be somewhat changed. This the people residing in the district of Killeeggan, Rahue, Ardaghue and Lauree, who are to be placed in King's county, do not like, and they held a meeting in Killeeggan last week to protest against the proposed change.

WEXFORD.

On Monday evening a meeting of the Governing Body of the Ennis-corthy Athenaeum was held for the purpose of considering the propriety of presenting the Rev. Patrick O'Connor, administrator of Ennis-corthy, with an address and testimonial on his appointment to the parochial charge of Davidstown. Mr. John Cullin presided. On the proposition of Mr. Donohue, supported by Mr. Bolger, it was unanimously resolved: "That the governors present form themselves into a committee for the purpose of calling a meeting of the townspeople, with the object of presenting their respected president, the Rev. Patrick O'Connor, with a testimonial on his being transferred to the parochial charge of Davidstown."

On Sunday a meeting was held in Barnstown in furtherance of the '98 movement. Messrs. S. McGuire, Free Press; T. Godfrey, P. Hanrahan, J. Kenny, N. Nell and W. O'Connor attended on behalf of the Wexford Boro' branch. The Glynn fife and drum band and the Kyle fife and drum band were present.

KILDARE.

On April 23 died Mrs. Mary Waters of Old Killeuin, aged 60 years. After office and high mass the interment was in New Abbey cemetery; attendance was numerous.

A meeting of the tenants and friends of the late Capt. Tickell, R. N., who owned a considerable estate at Carnalway, was held at the Naas Town hall last week. A series of resolutions were passed expressing regret at Capt. Tickell's death, and setting forth the desire of his Kildare tenants to erect a suitable monument to his memory. The Rev. Dr. Gowing, Kill, spoke to the resolutions and referred at length to Capt. Tickell's many estimable qualities as a landlord and a gentleman. It was ultimately decided that the monument should take the form of a fountain surmounted by a bust and having a marble slab in front, to be erected in Poplar Square, Naas. It may be mentioned that even during the land agitation days not a single case of eviction or legal proceedings of any sort occurred on Capt. Tickell's estate.

KILKENNY.

Mrs. Mary Duggan, Munster house, Kilkenny, died April 26, deeply and widely regretted. The funeral cortege to Foulkstown was long and was a striking illustration of the esteem in which the deceased was held.

An Irish class has been started in connection with the Young Men's society at Mullinavall. Meetings are held on Wednesday evenings, and Mr. Richard O'Shea, an Irish prize winner, is the teacher. Among the students are Rev. John Mullins, Mullinavall; William Kenneally, N. T.; John Kealy, assistant N. T.; Stephen Carroll, etc. Irish has not died out of the parish, and quite a number of people in the Welsh Mountains can speak the old sweet language of the Gael.

WICKLOW.

Irish people in Australia are arranging to celebrate the centenary of that famous period in Irish history—'98. In connection with it they are going to erect a fine monument to the memory of the redoubtable champion of freedom, Michael Dwyer, the Wicklow chief.

Mr. William Hickey, Ambrosestown, Duncormack, died lately, after a short illness from acute pneumonia. The large funeral attested the esteem in which he was held.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

Father Ryan, who left St. George's Trillick, for St. Vincent recently went down in the vessel which foundered on the voyage. Father Ryan was a native of Clare and was ordained in St. John's college, Waterford, June, 1898.

A few days ago in the beautiful chapel attached to the Kilrush convent of Mercy the impressive ceremony of profession of Miss MacNamara of Doora, East Clare, in religion Sister Mary Mechilde, took place. Most Rev. Dr. MacKedmond presided.

The death of Mrs. Mooney, Central hotel, Ballyvaughan, occurred lately at the early age of 38 years. The funeral cortege that accompanied the remains to St. Coleman's Abbey for interment was long and proved how esteemed deceased was during life.

CORK.

Charles Maher, shunter at the sheds in Malloy, while at work April 21, slipped and was run over by a wagon, inflicted serious injury to his leg and arm. It is feared that the leg will have to be amputated, and the doctor entertains serious apprehension as to his recovery.

The Town Commissioners of Rathkeale have inaugurated a movement which will lead to the presentation of a testimonial to the Rev. Thomas Linton, pastor of Kilmecady and Feenagh. For over twenty years Father Linton worked zealously and devotedly in the advancement of the parishioners.

Maurice Roche of the Ballingarry hurling club was received into Barrington's hospital, Limerick, April 25, and detained for treatment of a severe laceration of the lower lip and chin caused by a blow from a hurley accidentally while playing the Cappamore club at the Cork-anne field.

Some person or persons effected an entrance into the Redeemerist church on Sunday night, smashed the poor boxes and took the contents. They appear to have got in from the garden, through a parlor window, and from the convent into the church, the thieves showing an acquaintance with the premises that made the daring robbery a comparatively easy one.

Our Queenstown correspondent states that the United States Consul at Queenstown, Mr. D. Sweeney, has received and is continuing to receive hundreds of applications from persons throughout the country, except Ulster, for service in the United States army or navy. The consul has replied, stating that he has had no communication from his government in reference to the matter, but it is understood that he has brought the matter under the notice of his authorities.

"I have met some cases lately," said Canon Brosnan at a meeting of the Cahrlveen distress committee, "where the people are very destitute, and I had not the least idea of their poverty, although I thought I knew my parish very well." This is thoroughly Irish. The people are most sensitive about exposing their sad condition, although they are not blameable for it if they were barefaced and sturdy beggars or professionals the world would long since have resounded with their terrible cries for relief and every land would be fully informed of their condition by "Red Cross" persons and others. But they are of a religion and of a race that shrink from following about their condition, suffering heroically the tortures caused by British misrule. The people do not care to beg for alms; they desire self-government, and then all will be well.

On Friday and Saturday a successful and enjoyable entertainment was given by the Kildorrery Dramatic club at the Young Men's society hall in honor of the centenary of '98. The large hall was thronged.

KERRY.

An aged woman named Leary, of Loo Bridge, near Killarney, was found dead in her home last week. When her death occurred the members of her family were at the fair in Killarney.

With sincere regret we chronicle the death of Rev. James Quill, pastor of

Bonane and Glengariff, Kenmore, which happened on Saturday, April 23. He had been parish priest for the past five years, and during that period collected \$7,500 to erect a new church. The interment was in the church, the attendance being numerous.

LIMERICK.

The Cork Examiner of April 22 stated "Yesterday a large party of emigrants, young men and women full of health and vigor, left here for New York, and the leave-taking at the railway station was of a most touching character. They had little or no employment, those poor people, and the feeling with nearly all of them is that whatever their lot may be it cannot be worse than their every day experience of home has been under British misrule and landlord grabbing."

On Saturday a farmer's wife named Catherine McCarthy died suddenly at Kilmolan, about four miles from Cahrlveen. She prepared breakfast for herself and her husband and son, and was apparently in good health. After breakfast her husband left for Cahrlveen. Her son went into the house afterward and found the deceased in a bed, dead.

The Cork Examiner of 27 said: "The sea serpent has arrived at Valentia and now lies on that picturesque island as dead as a door nail, and in all the glory of terrible dimensions—30 feet long, 20 feet around the body, wings 14 feet when fully extended, and an immense head and tail. It nearly sank the boat of the fishermen, whose nets encompassed it, and five boats were required to drag it to the strand. The capture is valuable in the interests of science and veracity."

TIPPERARY.

Mrs. Ellen Fahey of 9 Main street, Tipperary, died April 19, at the fine old age of 80 years. Interment was in Cashel; funeral cortege long and most respectable.

One of the fine mills of Goring & Smith, Cahrl, was recently destroyed by fire. Two other extensive stores had a narrow escape from the same fate. Many persons will be now thrown idle.

The 25th anniversary of the religious profession of Mother Milbruge, of the convent in Trillick, was recently celebrated. The mother superior is cousin of Father Cahill, and a native of Ballingarry, and is related to Mr. James Cahill, Templeichael, South lodge, Carrick-on-Suir.

Mr. Maurice Healy, town commiss. stoner, of Meeting street, Tipperary, died recently, deeply and widely regretted.

Rev. Father Kavanagh, O. S. F., delivered a lecture on '98 in the college, Thurles, recently. He was the guest of Most Rev. Dr. Coke, Archbishop of Cashel.

Mr. Edward O'Donoghue, borough treasurer, Clonmel, died recently at his home, Parnell street, aged 40 years, sincerely regretted. He was a native of Killenacole, but had been a resident of Clonmel for past 20 years. Requiem office and high mass were celebrated at SS. Peter and Paul's.

WATERFORD.

Mr. McGuire, owner of Clonea house, and of some land around the district, has sent £200 to Mr. F. Lyons, Clonea, to be distributed among his tenants to purchase seed and other necessities to keep them over this exceptionally bad period. Each Christmas those on his property are recipients of his practical sympathy. Annie Genevieve Cleary, niece of the late Archbishop of Kingston, Canada, died April 22 in Plumstead, Kent, London.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

On Sunday a collection was taken up in all the churches of Belfast for the relief of the famine stricken in the west of Ireland.

Last week a dramatic performance under the auspices of the Larne Catholic Literary and Debating society was given in the McGarel town hall in aid of the fund for the relief of the distressed people in the west. The building was well filled with an appreciative audience. The piece put on the boards was the drama in three acts, of "Ireland as It Is; of the Middleman," the plot of which gave the audience a faint outline of some of the scenes often experienced in the south and west of Ireland where the agent or middleman had full power over the unfortunate tenantry and the landlords were absentees.

ARMAGH.

Mrs. Ann McCartan of Tassagh Bridge died April 24, aged 80 years.

deeply regretted. Interment was in Keady churchyard; funeral numerously attended.

On Wednesday, April 13, the chapel attached to the convent of Mercy in Edward street, Lurgan, was the scene of a very impressive ceremony, the profession of Sister Mary Ethna (in the world Miss McCorry of Newry). The religious functions were performed by Most Rev. Dr. McGivern, Bishop of Dromore, assisted by Very Rev. D. O'Loan, professor Maynooth College; Rev. J. Carlin, Adm., Newry, and Rev. M. B. McConville, Lurgan.

CAVAN.

The Protestant Church Temporalities commissions are in possession of 11,000 acres of the fair and fertile land of Cavan, for the benefit of clergymen who do not minister to the spiritual wants of the great mass of the Irish people. To make matters worse, this land was robbed from the Irish chieftains and people for the support and comfort of their bitterest foes. When will Ireland and the Irish have their own again?

A representative meeting under presidency of the pastor, Rev. J. Flood, took place on Sunday in St. Mary's parochial hall, Kingscourt, for the purpose of taking steps to do honor to the memory of the immortals of Ireland's '98. Final arrangements will be made at the next meeting.

DERRY.

The Beresfords during the robbing of the Irish people were not standing idly by, for we find that besides all the land the family managed to grab in almost every county in Ireland, some members laid their claws upon the one productive soil of this county to the extent of over 18,000 acres. The day is not far off when they will have to disgorge it all.

DONEGAL.

The death of Mrs. McGabrick, May street, Donegal, which occurred on April 15, was deeply and widely deplored. The funeral cortege was representative.

The natives of Donegal resident in Liverpool will soon hold a reunion. A special meeting of the Ballyshannon dispensary committee was held last week. Mr. Francis Fawcett in the chair.

DOWN.

Andrew Wallace, aged 14 years, was found drowned in a pool on the old Bangor road, near Newtownards, last week.

FERMANAGH.

In the pretty chapel of the convent of Mercy, Enniskillen, Miss Josephine Nolan, Carrickmacross (in religion Sister Mary Emanuel), received the white veil at the hands of Most Rev. Dr. Owens, Bishop of Clogher, assisted by Rev. James E. McKenna, Enniskillen, and Rev. Father Oonolly, Enniskillen. Right Rev. Mgr. Smollen, Enniskillen, preached an eloquent and appropriate sermon.

A conference of the clergy of the deanery of Enniskillen, diocese of Clogher, was held in the Catholic reading rooms, Enniskillen. His Lordship, Most Rev. Dr. Owens, Bishop of the diocese, presided.

MONAGHAN.

Lizzie Doran, daughter of John Doran, the Cathedral, Monaghan, died at the residence of her uncle, D. Griffin, Main street, Birr, on April 21. Deceased was aged 20 years.

TYRONE.

Lately a great county meeting was held at the historic hill of Mullaghmoyle in celebration of the centenary of '98. The famous hill of Mullaghmoyle lies between Coalisland and Stewartstown, a few miles from the former, and approached by a circuitous road commanding a marvelous vista of noble scenery. The scene when the head of the procession reached the hill was impressive. As far back as the eye could reach the road was packed with people. A more ideal site for a meeting could not be imagined. The hill of Mullaghmoyle, the meeting place of the volunteers, commands a view of Lough Neagh, of Dunganon in the distance, and not far off are districts recalling the famous Yellow Ford and Benbulbin. The meeting was held high up the hill, and when the vast mass of people gathered around the spectacle was indeed a memorable one. The districts represented included Dunganon, Clonoe, Stewartstown, Mount-Down, Maghera, Edendork, Ardboe, Donaghmore, Pomeroy, Killybeg, Carnan, Lower Aghboe, Aughaura, Cookstown and Killybolgahan.

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