

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.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. James Gilligan at Barnaderg, on Saturday last, at the age of 78 years. The interment took place on Monday in Killrerin churchyard, the funeral being large and representative of all classes and creeds as well as many who came from a distance of twenty miles to see the last sod placed upon one who bore the character of an honest and upright man. Father Keaveney, P. P., officiated at the interment.

Mrs. Walsh, wife of Mr. Thomas Walsh, Roundstone, died in Dublin May 2. The remains were conveyed to Ballynahinch station, and after solemn requiem services in Roundstone church, were interred in Ballinacorney cemetery.

The ceremony of religious profession took place in the Church of the Carmelite Nuns, Loughrea, a few days ago. High mass was celebrated by Rev. Joseph Coen, O. D. C.; Rev. Francis Barry, O. D. C., deacon, and the Rev. Clement O'Looney, O. D. C., sub-deacon. The young lady, clothed in the brown habit of the Discolored Carmelites was Miss O'Loughlin, only daughter of Judge O'Loughlin, Newfoundland—name in religion Sister Mary Philemena. Miss O'Loughlin journeyed from North America to enter the convent of the Carmelite nuns in Loughrea and adopt the rigid and severe monastic life of a Teresian nun. The Rev. Jerome O'Connell, Provincial Carmelite Order in Ireland, preached.

LEITRIM.

At the recent great demonstration in Drumkeerin the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That we, in public meeting assembled, heartily approve of the action of the United States of America in organizing an army of independence to liberate the oppressed Cubans; that we see in their cause ours of one hundred years ago and ours of to-day; that we tender our sympathy to an heroic people rightly struggling to be free."

The terrible reduction of the population of this country under British misrule was the subject of a speech at a recent meeting, when Mr. McHugh, M. P., Mayor of Sligo, pointed out that in 1841 the population of the county was 145,000, to-day only

MAYO.

One thousand persons received Holy Communion in Castlebar a few Sundays ago, when Father Somers of the Redemptorist order conducted a retreat in the town. The religious fervor of the people was most edifying, and the priests were filled with thanksgiving for the blessings enjoyed by their people.

A month's memory office and high mass were held in Kilmeena parish church for the repose of the soul of the late Rev. Father O'Donnell, P. P. Celebrant, Rev. Jeremiah O'Toole, Adm., Kilmeena; deacon, Rev. Michael Ronayne, Westport; sub-deacon, Rev. James Burke, Westport; master of ceremonies, Rev. Thomas Healy, Adm.

ROSCOMMON.

A procession in honor of the Blessed Virgin took place on Sunday in Casheara. It started from the convent schools, and proceeded through the convent grounds and around the church in the following order: A cross bearer and sixty acolytes headed the procession, a large number of children dressed as angels. The grown girls of the convent schools took their places in the procession according to their socialties. The Children of Mary and the members of the Sacred Heart association were well represented.

In Clonboniffe on Sunday was held a meeting under the auspices of local clubs. The following deputation attended from the committee of the O'Connell Association: Arthur O'Connor '98 club; J. Maguire, E. J. McLermott, P. Conry, M. H. Grogan, F. Forde and W. J. Hartnett. The meeting was held to organize that part of the party of Kilkeevan for the demonstration and procession to celebrate the anniversary of the rising. Speeches were made by J. Maguire, Grogan,

SLIGO.

The people of Tabbercurry lately presented an address and a purse of sovereigns to Mr. Stephen Houlihan, the station master there, on the Waterford and Limerick Railway line. Mr. Houlihan has been promoted to the charge of the station in Cahir, county Tipperary.

Mr. Michael Quinn, Cloonacurrow, died recently, aged 70 years, deeply regretted.

A special meeting of Skreen Dispensary committee was held recently. The meeting was summoned for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year. The following were unanimously elected: Mr. W. A. Mitchell, chairman; Rev. Patrick McNulty, vice-chairman; Mr. Peter S. Kilgallen, secretary, and Mr. Peter Laying, assistant secretary.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

Mr. Richard Grogan of Carlow college, died recently at the patriarchal age of 90 years. During forty years he was gardener in the college and in recent years had the lighter charge of the gate entrance.

The feast of the Holy Cross, which for years has been celebrated at Killesha with fitting ceremonial and widespread popular co-operation, was duly honored lately. The procession, consisting of the male and female branches of the Apostleship of Prayer wearing their scarfs and medals, started from Carlow-Graigue, preceded by the splendid brass band. The procession was a large one and increased in dimensions as Killesha was approached. Here the parishioners showed the greatest interest in having the arrangements perfected, and before the ceremonial commenced the visitors inspected the picturesque and well kept churchyard where so many splendid monuments to the dead with the sympathy and prayers of the observer. Numerous wreaths were placed on the tombs in memory of the departed and altogether the ceremonial of the day was well calculated to inspire piety and reverence. The Most Rev. Dr. Foley, bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, presided at high mass, which commenced at 12 o'clock.

DUBLIN.

Speaking at a meeting of the Central Branch of the Independent League lately, Mr. John Redmond, M. P., said the Local Government bill was certain to pass as it stood. If there were any changes they would be changes for the better. He believed the Independent League would fight the battle of freedom at the elections under the new system of local government. Referring to the financial relations questions he said he believed the English people would be ready to give them Home rule at once rather than release their grasp on the purse of Ireland. He believed that through the agency of this movement the Unionists would be brought into the National movement for they would see that it would be impossible in the future to obtain justice for Ireland from England. Both these movements for local government and financial justice would make for a united demand from Ireland for self-government, and when a united Ireland was made they would get justice in six months.

At a meeting of the Dublin corporation May 13, the following resolution was moved by the Lord Mayor: "That this council begs to direct the immediate attention of Her Majesty's Government to the acute and widespread distress and destitution at present existing in Kerry, Cork, Mayo and Galway; that we call upon the Government to send immediate relief and take such steps as may prevent a famine in these districts before the present crop comes to maturity, and to enable these poor people to make provision for the coming winter and spring months of next year; that this resolution be forwarded to the members of Her Majesty's Government, the Lord Lieutenant, the Chief Secretary for Ireland and the Irish members of Parliament." The Lord Mayor then read extracts from telegrams received by Sir Francis Brady, fully bearing out everything that has been reported regarding the affected districts. Alderman Sir Robert Sexton said he had no objection to second the resolution. The resolution was supported by Alderman Meade, Mr. Jones and Mr. McCann, and was adopted.

Recent deaths in Dublin.—At 18 North Cumberland street, John Kenny, May 1, 58 Bolton street, Patrick Barnes, late of 145 and 146 James' street, May 1, 55 Church street, Dublin, Mrs. Mary McDermott, late of Bray Common, county Wicklow, May 1, at Rathnaledagh house, Dymock, Mary Ellen, aged 29 years, loved

wife of James Kiernan. May 5, at 29 Hardwicke street, Dublin, Jane Augustine Power, in the 27th year of her age, daughter of David Power. May 4, Major James Harran, of 2 Ardhuhan Villas, Dollymount, late 14th Hussars, aged 68 years. March 25, at the Hospital, Salisbury, South Africa, of fever, Edward Ennis, 41 Mountjoy street, aged 27.

KILDARE.

A respectable farmer named Thomas Neill while waiting for an auction to take place at Kilgowan became ill suddenly, and died after a few minutes. Deceased was 80 years of age. He was much respected.

A successful and representative meeting was held at Clonard on Sunday, to further the '98 movement. The meeting was held on the spot where they fell, and in full view of the Croppies grave in the next field. There were 8,000 people present, representing every class of Irish Nationalists, and a distinguishing feature was the large number of the fair sex.

KILKENNY.

James Convorford, son of Richard Convorford, Ballyfoyle, died May 1, aged 25 years, deeply regretted.

Mr. James Pollard, Callan, lately forwarded forty dollars from a few subscribers in Callan, to the Irish Parliamentary Fund committee.

Very Rev. P. R. Hensby, Tasmania, has made an extensive tour of the principal European cities, having left Tasmania early in February last, and purposes "doing" Ireland before returning to the Antipodes. Father Hensby is a native of the county Kilkenny, and cousin to the late Mr. John Slattery, Waterford City. A few weeks ago he was staying in the Adelphi hotel, Waterford.

KING'S.

A fire did considerable damage to the premises in the possession of Mr. J. B. Williams, baker, Edenderry, last week. For a time the business houses of Miss Williams, Mr. Pellin and the Hibernian Bank were in imminent danger, particularly Mr. Pellin's, which were in flames for some time.

LONGFORD.

On Wednesday, May 11, Margret Casey, of Ballymahon, was found dead in her house. Her neighbors had not seen her for two days, and on Wednesday they entered and found her in kneeling position beside her bed. On examination it was found that life was extinct. It is surmised that she was dead for at least a day before she was discovered. Deceased was the mother of the famous Leo Casey, the poet of the Fenian movement, whose songs are so popular with the people in the West. He was the author of "Shawn O'Farrell" and many other stirring pieces.

LOUTH.

At the meeting of the Town Board held in Drogheda last week an application was received from the Centenary committee for a site for the monument to be erected in honor of the men who fought and died for Ireland in 1798. The design is by Mr. Herbert O'Barnes, sculptor, of Dublin, whose offer to execute the work for \$250 has been provisionally accepted by the committee, and the monument is to be cut out of Kilkenny limestone. It will stand 25 feet high, the statue being 7 feet 6 inches in height, and the base 8 feet square. The site asked for was the centre of the Market Square, in front of the Court house—a worthy site for so fine a monument. The application was granted unanimously.

MEATH.

An extraordinary accident, by which William O'Brien, aged 9 years, had one of his hands maimed for life, occurred at Moate, a short distance from Oldcastle. He got from his sister what appeared to be a case to hold plate pencils. He thrust a pencil into the case, and a few days after that took it out. As he did so he noticed in the case what he thought resembled fat, and with boyish curiosity, wanted to know what it was. Taking a lighted stick from the fire, he pushed it into the opening, and immediately a tremendous explosion occurred. The poor lad's left hand was fearfully injured, the thumb being blown clean off, as well as some of the joints of the other fingers. The supposed pencil case had been going about from one to the other among the school children until finally it came into the possession of young O'Brien. What may have been the nature of the explosive which it contained is a matter for surmise.

QUEEN'S.

James Sheeran, son of John Sheeran, Ballinacorney, died May 1, at 107

Hollybank road, Drumcondra, Dublin, deeply regretted.

A new colliery is being opened at The Rushes by Mr. Dodd, proprietor of that already in operation at Clonbrock. The plant is being rapidly put in.

A beautiful cross, of Celtic design has been erected over the grave of Lay Brother Joseph Foley in the New cemetery, Maryborough. Lay Brother Foley was for many years well known to the people of Maryborough and but few of the pupils who attended the schools of the Christ the Brothers cease to remember the kindly words and kindler deeds of "Old Brother Joe," as he was familiarly called by the "boys," many of whom are now the leading merchants and officials in Maryborough.

WEXFORD.

Richard Stafford, Scar, died suddenly lately. Previous to his death he was subject to singular and homicidal hallucinations.

A new mass composed by Mr. William H. Grattan Flood, the organist of Ennisceorthy cathedral, has just been published. The mass is "in honor of St. Adrian, Bishop, Confessor and Patron of Ferns," and is dedicated to Most Rev. James Browne, D. D., Bishop of Ferns.

A district convention of '98 branches was held at the committee rooms, Craanford, on Sunday, arranging public meetings and other matters in connection with the celebrations.

WICKLOW.

Mrs. Byrne, Askakee, Ballinglen, died recently at the extraordinary age of 103 years. She was in possession of all her faculties at the time of her death. She was greatly regretted by the people of the district, and the large and representative funeral cortege that accompanied the remains to Kilveny cemetery was ample testimony to the esteem in which she was held.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

Mr. Thomas Cahill of Ballymurphy died lately aged 89 years, and Mr. Michael Carty of Clifden, Corofin, aged 75 years.

At a meeting of the Prefects of the Confraternity of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour, held on Sunday in Milltownmalby, Rev. Thomas Vaughan, spiritual director, presiding, it was proposed by Mr. Francis Moynihan and seconded by Mr. John Sullivan: "That we deeply regret the early and untimely death of Mr. William R. Hurley, our most efficient, energetic and painstaking secretary, and we tender to his sorrowing widow and children, as well as to the other members of the family to which he was allied, the expression of our heartfelt sympathy and condolence." The meeting unanimously appointed Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick, national teacher, general secretary.

CORK.

Most Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, Bishop of Cork, made his visitation to Bantry Sunday, and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 400 children. The large church was crowded to excess during mass. The celebrant was the Rev. T. Murphy, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. Father Murphy, convent chaplain.

Miss M. E. Stone, Cork, was lately professed a member of the community of St. Paul's, in Selby Park, Birmingham, England, taking the religious title of Sister M. Magdalen.

We regret to have to record the death by drowning while bathing in the river Lee of Mr. Barry Lillis, aged 19 years, son of the manager of the Munster and Leinster bank, Cork.

Mr. Joseph O'Brien, town councillor and merchant draper, Barrack street, Bantry, was found dead in his room last week. His demise caused the deepest sorrow to the people in the district.

Rt. Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, Bishop of Cork, recently in Middleton administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 240 children from the convent schools, Warner's Lane school, Chapel street school and Crossmahon school.

In Carrigtwohill lately a mission was conducted by Father Alphonsus of the Franciscan monastery, Killarney. It was attended by great numbers, whose zeal in the good cause was most edifying and in the future will bear excellent fruit.

Michael Acock of Scilly, Kinsale, died very suddenly at sea after having only a short time previously complained of a headache. The deceased was 40 years of age, and leaves a widow and eight children to mourn his sudden death.

The Mayor of Cork city and Lady Bandon opened the Cork industrial

exhibition on May 11. Exhibits are most interesting and will assist to advance cottage industries of all kinds. Works from the convent schools and national schools consist of children's clothing, socks and embroidery. Spinning wheels, worked by aged women, are there and making handmade tweeds. Chickens, eggs, honey and cakes are also on view.

Rt. Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, Bishop of Cork, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a great number of children in Ennisceorthy parish lately.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Jerh. Jordan, which took place at South Main street, Bandon, May 5, and caused feelings of the deepest regret among his friends.

On May 15 a demonstration, whose numbers exceeded many thousands, assembled on the outskirts of Killooney woods to take part in the unveiling of a monument to the memory of Peter O'Neill Crowley, who fell fighting against enormous odds on March 31, 1867. There were 10,000 on the hill at Killooney. By far the largest contingents came from Cork, the Rebel City being represented by its popular mayor, Mr. P. H. Meade, who presided, and other well known Nationalists of the southern capital. Mr. John Daly, although the effects of his journey from New York had not quite worn off, went out specially for the unveiling of a monument to the memory of a man whose principles were identical with his own. Limerick county was well represented, the largest contingents coming from Kilmallock, Ballyandera and Kilmacnee. Bruff was also represented by a deputation from the '98 Centenary association. The proceedings were carried out with the greatest order and decorum. Mr. C. G. Doran, of Queens-town, delivered the address and unveiled the monument, which is in the shape of a Celtic cross made from limestone. It stands 12 feet high, mounted on a concrete base, and the carving and general finish are equal to anything that could be done in monumental work. The inscription is: "Erected A. D. 1898, to the memory of Peter O'Neill Crowley patriot, Fenian and martyr, by the Nationalists of Mitchelstown, as a token of their undying regard for his personal bravery in attempting to free Ireland by arms, in which struggle he lost his life in Killooney Wood, March 31, 1867. R. I. P. God Save Ireland."

KERRY.

Father Alphonsus of the Franciscan monastery, Killarney, recently conducted a mission in the parish of Carrigtwohill, which was attended by great numbers.

LIMERICK.

A police hut is being erected on an evicted farm on the O'Grady estate, Herbertstown. A considerable force of police is guarding Mr. Patrick Molloy and men, who are putting up the hut.

Mrs. E. Culhane Capps, died recently, deeply and widely regretted.

At the Church of the Redemptorist Fathers Mount St. Alphonsus, Limerick, a few days ago, the celebration of the formation of an Irish province of the order was held. Solemn high mass was celebrated in the presence of Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer.

John Daly, ex-political prisoner, arrived in Limerick from the United States May 14. The people of the "City of the Violated Treaty" gave him an enthusiastic welcome. He was met at Patrick's Well station, taken from the train by his friends, and accompanied by a long procession, made a triumphal entry into Limerick.

TIPPERARY.

Michael Dawson, aged 19 years, of Banaha, died suddenly in Dublin last week. He was in the capitol looking for work as a grocer's assistant. Jeremiah Dawson, father, having identified the remains, the jury found a verdict of death from apoplexy.

WATERFORD.

Mrs. Michael O'Mara, Dungarvan, died recently, deeply and widely regretted.

Rev. Maurice Kealing, pastor of Dunhill, is endeavoring to pay off a sum of \$4,000 due on the church.

The new house for Father Nicholas Power is now completed and he will soon take up his residence therein. The parochial committee, with Father Burke, have left nothing undone to insure the comfort of Father Power.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Henry, Bishop of Down and Connor, recently confirmed 195 children in the parish of St. Matthew's. The Bishop was assisted by Father Macaulay, Father McCambridge, Fa-

Laher Quinn and Father Lavarty.

ARMAGH.

Cardinal Logue administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 400 children in the church of Beesbrook. Father F. McDonnell, C. O., celebrated mass.

The funeral of the late Mr. James Kearns, Ballinamoney, Lurgan, was held on May 3 at the cemetery of St. Patrick's church, Derrymacash. The deceased, who was a brother of the Rev. Joseph Kearns, Hilltown, was very popular among the residents of Ballinamoney and surrounding districts. The cortege was large and representative and bore ample testimony to the respect in which the deceased was held by all who knew him. Prior to interment the remains were brought into St. Patrick's church, Derrymacash, where burial service and prayers for the dead were recited, after which a sermon was preached by the Rev. Francis J. O'Hare, C. C., who referred in eulogistic terms to the deceased. Mr. Kearns was aged 64 years when he died.

DERRY.

The collection in aid of the starving people in the west of Ireland was taken up by the members of the St. Vincent de Paul society in the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption, Magherafelt, and a substantial amount was subscribed. This sum was forwarded by Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland, to the Most Rev. Dr. Conny, Lord Bishop of Killala. The Very Rev. Canon McNeese, Magherafelt, has received the following acknowledgement from the Bishop of Killala: "Ballina, April 30, 1898.—Dear Canon McNeese:—I received a letter from Cardinal Logue forwarding me check for £20 12s. 6d. His eminence informed me that this was the proceeds of a collection made in the parish of Magherafelt for the relief of distress in the west. I am profoundly grateful to you and your good people for your generous contribution, and will pray that the Father of the poor may reward you a hundred fold for your practical charity. I am, dear canon, yours faithfully, JOHN CONNY."

Very Rev. Canon McNeese, Magherafelt, County Derry. The members of St. Malachy's Temperance association gave a most enjoyable entertainment in Coleraine. There was a large assemblage. The Rev. John Carroll presided, and the Rev. W. Walsh also attended.

FERRMAGH.

Many will learn with regret of the death of Miss Roseann Kelly, which occurred at Strand street, Enniskillen, at the early age of 22 years. The funeral took place on Friday, April 29, the cortege being the largest and most representative witnessed in Enniskillen for years.

DONEGAL.

In Oughter parish recently Rt. Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a great number of children in the Bathmullen district.

DOWN.

The annual conference of the clergy of the diocese of Down was held in the cathedral, Hill street, Newry, during the week. The ceremonies began with mass, the Most Rev. Dr. McGovern, Lord Bishop of the diocese, presiding. The Rev. John Rooney was celebrant; Rev. F. McGinness, deacon; Rev. F. McGrath, sub-deacon, and Rev. J. Carlin, Adm., master of ceremonies.

May 14 being hiring day in Ballynahinch, and as it was well known a number of Catholics would be in town, organized mobs of Orange rowdies paraded the streets to assault them. Several suffices took place in which Catholics were attacked with sticks, clubs and other weapons. One young man named McCormick, who was on his way to Guinness, was attacked and beaten in a cruel manner. He was outside Ballynahinch 200 yards when he was assaulted by Orange rowdies, who beat him unmercifully with sticks and other weapons. These attacks have become of common occurrence, and the police are never able to detect the offending parties.

MONAGHAN.

The dead body of John Keenan was found in the lake near Roslea lately. A fatality of a shocking nature took place in Monaghan lately, resulting in the death of Daniel Deery. Deery kept a lodging house, and one of the men, as he was about to retire to bed, invited Deery and a couple of men to drink out of a bottle. Deery put the bottle to his head and drank a quantity of the stuff it contained, and Thomas Kelly also. Shortly afterwards Deery was seized with an illness and when Dr. Henry arrived all hope of recovery was gone.