

OUR IRISH LETTER

NEWS FROM ALL THE COUNTIES OF IRELAND.

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

CONNAUGHT.

GALWAY.

Mr. John Roche the member for East Galway, who shot near Woodford an animal which he believes to be a wolf, has brought the body to London for expert opinion. Several gentlemen who have seen the trophy declare the animal to be a wolf. It is, however, pronounced by others to be a dingy hog, one of a number that were sold in the west of Ireland by the late Prof. Houghton, when curator of the Irish Zoological Gardens in the Phoenix park.

Mr. Thomas Byrne, Ballinasloe, has purchased Hogan's hotel for £700.

Mr. John Byrne has purchased Mr. John Rigney's house in Tea lane, Ballinasloe for £350.

Mrs. Julia Mullin, Ballinasloe, recently sold the licensed premises to Mr. Patrick Harney, Aughrin, for £930.

There recently took place the interment of Mr. Patrick Francis, an old and highly respected resident of Spiddal. Deceased was aged 78 years. The high mass was in the pretty church of Spiddal.

LEITRIM.

Mrs. Sarah Jones of Lisduff, Drumana, died recently at the age of 74 years.

MAYO.

Master P. J. McNulty of Swinford, died recently at the early age of 13 years; deeply regretted.

We deeply regret to chronicle the death of Martin Gillan, teacher of the Greenane N. S., Parish on Turlough, which occurred May 13, in the 81st year of his age. The funeral, on the Sunday following, to the ancient burial ground at Turlough, was largely and respectfully attended.

Died.—On May 18 at Newport, George John Ferris, aged 24 years. At Broomfield, Loughborough May 13, David Gibbons. May 22 Michael Joseph Hastings, aged 23 years, at Westport.

ROSCOMMON.

The Boyle Board of Guardians is now composed in part of the following: Owen Phibbs, chairman; J. Clarke, L. M. O'Hara, J. Quinn, P. McDermott T. A. C. J., P. F. Burns, J. Lindsay, J. Merrick Lloyd, J. P., H. McLoughlin. They will probably be the last to hold the seats under present conditions, as the new Irish Local Government law will legislate them out.

Died.—May 21, at Castlerea, Patrick Nellan, merchant, aged 83 years.

Great preparations are being made to keep alive the memory of the heroes who died in '98.

SLIGO.

Owing to the untiring efforts of the local members, Alderman Colliery and Mr. McEugh, Sligo is going to have a splendid and spacious post office.

Mr. Kirwan, solicitor, Ballinrobe, succeeded in hooking a pike in Lough Corrib which turned the scale at seventy-two pounds.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Michael Scanlon, Cortubber, Ballymote. The funeral, which was large and representative, took place to the family burial ground at Ballymote and amply testified to the respect in which the deceased was held.

At a meeting of Ballymote '98 club, Mr. Bernard Kelly presided. Mr. John Clarke proposed, and Mr. P. Curley seconded: "That we call on the people of this town to decorate their houses on Monday by hanging out the national colors in honor of Wolfe Tone and the brave heroes of '98, and that all are requested to illuminate their houses at night."

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

A mission, conducted by the Fathers of the Holy Ghost, Blackrock, Dublin, was opened in the Cathedral in Carlow on Sunday.

Mr. James Chambers, president of the Dublin Trades council, is a native of Carlow, and is by trade a harness-maker.

A meeting of the Carlow-Graigle Memorial was held on Wednesday, at which were present: Michael Governor (presiding), Richard McDonald, William Bergin, John Brennan, John Patrick Byrne, Tullow street; James P. Harte, Thomas O'Gorman,

honorable secretary. The honorable secretary read the following letter addressed to Mr. Governor:

"Killinure, Tullow, County Carlow, April 27, '98.

"Dear Mr. Governor: As an old Carlow man, it will please me much to be allowed to subscribe to the 'Croppies' Hole' fund. How shamefully true was the title for nearly a century. Subscribing to the fund does not mean sympathy with rebellion. No one sympathizes with rebellion now-a-days. Had we lived, however, in the dark and evil days, it is probable we should have been as 'lad as the rest of them.' Faithfully yours,

"WILLIAM BYRNE, P. T.

"Inclosed find 21 subscription."

The following letter was submitted: "Tipperary, April 23, 1898.

"Re-1798 Celebration.

"Dear Sir: Seeing your letter on 'Carlow and the '98 Celebrations,' in yesterday's Freeman, reminded me of a memento of the Irish rebellion which came into my possession in 1861, when I was a young man, serving my apprenticeship in a Dublin solicitor's office. The inclosed card came in a box of family papers, etc., from Melbourne, Victoria, to the next of kin of a Mr. Murphy, who died in that colony. I saved it from the waste paper basket and kept it for over 27 years. The sleeve button was missing; probably it fell off the card to which it was originally attached. Some tradition may still exist in Carlow of poor Richard Murphy, a martyr to Ireland in 1798, shot in Carlow barracks without a crime." I remain yours faithfully,

WILLIAM RYAN.

"Thos. O'Gorman, esq., Sec. '98 Memorial, Carlow."

The inclosed was a small discolored card, 2 1/2 inches by 1 inch.

DUBLIN.

The weekly meeting of the Gaelic League was held Friday at 24 Upper O'Connell street, Dublin. Mr. D. Lynch in the chair.

William Mitchell, engineer, and Patrick Bolger, laborer, were killed last week by the falling in of a roof in the Dublin City Distillery, Great Brunswick street, and Michael O'Brien, Patrick Curran and John McDevlin were injured.

The death of Sir John Gilbert, Irish historian and antiquarian, took place May 23 very suddenly. Sir John being seized with illness in the tramcar coming from Blackrock, and succumbing in a very short time. He was in his own line a distinguished laborer in the field of Irish literature and history. Of his works, the best known are "History of Dublin," "History of the Irish Viscounts," and "History of the Confederation of Kilkenny."

"Who Fears to Speak of '98?" The centenary of the opening of the rebellion of '98 was celebrated by a great demonstration in the streets of Dublin, May 23. That the people deeply sympathized with the movement of the men who strove to shake off the English yoke a hundred years ago was proved by the enormous numbers in the streets. The historic open space around the Irish custom house was a most suitable trying place for such a gathering. The great procession, with its numerous bands and societies contingents, moved along Abbey street, into Stafford street, where Wolfe Tone was born, and there a halt was made to respect the memory of so illustrious a patriot. Then marched to the site of Newgate prison. The gloomy and massive walls of the British Bastille in Dublin have been demolished, but the memories of the men who suffered death for Ireland within its portals will live in the minds of the Irish people until that portion of the Celtic races ceases to exist. The procession passed by St. Michael's church, where rest the ashes of Ireland's illustrious martyr patriots, Emmet, the brothers Sheares, Bond and the Rev. Mr. Jackson. The birthplace of Oliver Bond, in Bridge street, and of Dr. Madden, the historian of the United Irishmen, were honored. In Thomas street the enthusiasm was at its greatest. There, at the corner of the pavement, near St. Catherine's church, on Sept. 20, 1803, Emmet was hanged and beheaded at the age of 24 years. The other places intimately identified with the struggle for Irish independence were visited.

Recent deaths in Dublin. May 22, at 48 New row, Chapelizod, Daniel Morris, aged 33 years. May 22, at 26 Ranelagh, Rosanna Pendred. May 21, 3 Duke's row, Summer hill, Samuel MacCormack, aged 28 years. May 22, at the Hardwicke hospital, Elizabeth Mooney, eldest daughter of Thomas Mooney, house painter. May 23, at 18 Kenmare parade, N. O. R., Christopher Mooney. May 23, at 33 Upper Rathmines, Mrs. Catherine Bass, dearly loved wife of A. Bass.

14 Wellington quay. May 23, at 13 Thomas street, Denis Glennon. May 23, at 46 Northumberland road Dublin, Dr. Linda Josephine McCann. May 23, at 8 Newmarket, Patrick Kinsella. May 19, at Quill house, Kilmacanogue, Bray, Sarah, youngest and dearly beloved daughter of Augustine and Julia Ryder, aged 18 years. May 17, Ilen Theresa Hackett. May 4, at 726 Green street, San Francisco, William M. Cauley, eldest son of the late Peter McCauley, Raheny. May 13, at 30 Lennon street, Newark, N. J., Martin Rossiter, late 20 Wellington quay, Dublin. May 21, at Dollymount, William Kidd, aged 88 years. May 21, at Murling cottage, Helena, beloved wife of Bernard Lynch. At 10 Lower Summer hill, Rose McGarry, aged 23 years. May 19, Mrs. Catherine Casey of Prussia street. May 21, at the Albert farm, Glasnevin, Ellen Carroll.

KILDARE.

Mrs. O'Sullivan, national school teacher of Leixlip, who was recently dismissed for some reason by Very Rev. Canon Hunt, has been reinstated by him, to the great satisfaction of all concerned in the case. Mrs. O'Sullivan had carried her case into court in Dublin, and obtained a verdict against Canon Hunt for over £200.

Died.—May 15, at 12 Charlotte street, Dublin, John Walsh of 26 Richmond street, May 19, at Newberry hall, Carbury, Frederick Pilkington, aged 79 years. May 22, at Tipperary, Ballymore-Eustace, Philip Brian.

KILKENNY.

Rev. J. Mullins presided at a recent meeting of the Mullinavat Gaelic League branch, when the letter of the honorable secretary of the Kilkenny Gaelic League was read, and it was decided that existing circumstances would not justify the holding of a public meeting, but they hope for more favorable opportunity in the near future.

At a recent meeting of the Celtic Board of Guardians, Mr. Buggy wrote following notice to quit and copy in the case of the guardians against Dr. van, tenant of a laborer's cottage at Ballygarry, requesting copy and notice to be sealed by the guardians, and signed by the chairman and clerk, which request was complied with. It appears that even boards of guardians become evictors when the limit is reached.

Died.—May 17, at an advanced age, Deborah O'Farrell, Brook Hill, county Kilkenny, granddaughter of the late Dudley Finnmore, Kiltiride manor, county Wicklow. May 19, at The Farm, Monkstown, Mrs. Margaret Baker, at an advanced age, late of Thomastown, county Kilkenny.

KING'S.

On May 17, died in Shannon Bridge, Elizabeth Rigney, aged 12 years, second daughter of Patrick Rigney.

LONGFORD.

In the death of Mr. Bernard O'Connor, which occurred recently at his daughter's residence in Killashee street, Longford, the town of Mohill has lost a respected inhabitant, and his family a loving parent. The remains were removed for interment to the family burial ground at Longford on Sunday.

LOUTH.

Deep and sincere regret was felt among all sections of Drogheda citizens on May 21, when it became known that Mrs. Clancy, wife of Mr. Thomas H. Clancy, manager of the Drogheda Independent, had died after a short illness.

MEATH.

Mrs. Griffin, Oldtown, died May 22, at the age of 68 years; deeply and widely regretted. She was the wife of late Mr. Thomas Griffin.

All who know the Rev. W. Rossiter, New Ross, will regret to learn of the death of his father, Mr. John Rossiter Ballingale, Taghmon. The interment took place in the family burial place, Taggot. Solemn office and high mass being previously held. The Very Rev. Canon Furlong presided.

With regret we chronicle the death at the age of 82, of Mr. Nicholas Corish, Lough, Duncormack. Mr. Corish, who was father of Rev. John Corish, Ballymore, and Rev. P. A. Corish, Carlow, was a member of a very old and always highly respected family, and was nephew of the late Very Rev. Peter Corish, Bannow, and Chancellor of Ferns, one of the old century priests.

QUEEN'S.

Mrs. Anne Smyth of Fernans, died May 15, at an advanced age. The funeral cortege that accompanied her remains to the cemetery in Arles was

long, and represented all creeds and classes.

Mrs. Mary Murphy, wife of the chief warden in Maryborough jail, died suddenly last week. She was aged 50 years.

WESTMEATH.

The case of the Chapman baronetcy and the estates in this county was lately in the courts, Dublin. There is a probability of the present baronet dying without issue, and his brother Benjamin, the next in title, is considered insane. So it was to discover who was to inherit the property the case was brought. However, before it was begun an arrangement was made. The property consists of about 10,000 acres of land and Killa castle.

WEXFORD.

The pastor and people of Oulart and adjoining parishes have secured a handsome sum toward erecting a memorial in Oulart, where the first decisive battle took place.

Ferns has a mass of its patron saint and first bishop—St. Aidan—that will be popular in every church choir in the ancient diocese. Mr. W. H. Grattan Flood, organist of the Cathedral has composed the new mass in honor of St. Aidan, and dedicated it to Most Rev. James Browne, D. D., the present Bishop of Ferns.

WICKLOW.

Mrs. Elizabeth Curran, Rustigath, Arklow, died May 22, deeply regretted.

Died.—May 18, at Wicklow, Mrs. Catherine Delehan. May 18, at Ballyglass, Mr. Edward Dunne.

Rathangan recently lost one of its most respected residents by the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Doran, at the age of 55 years. Interment was in Frebawn cemetery; funeral long.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

The man Cosoline, who died recently in Ennis, at the extraordinary age of 103 years, belonged to Woodstock, near the town.

Rev. Thomas Newell, P. P., Ennistymon, returned home after three weeks' absence in England for the benefit of his health. He is greatly improved.

Mr. William Halpin, who died recently at Knockragan, Newmarket-on-Fergus, was aged 89 years. From the days of O'Connell he was a thorough Nationalist. During the '48 trouble his house was searched for pikes. Mr. Halpin always took part in the county elections, and came very near being shot on the "bloody day" at Sixmilebridge, when the hat was shot off the Rev. Father Wall's head. He was standing by him and handed him back the hat. Jerry Flawley, another Newmarket man, was shot dead close to him, and, while trying to get the people into the courthouse, another Newmarket man, D. Flaherty, was shot.

A few days ago an extraordinary discovery was made in the graveyard of Kilmacreehy, near Lisconnor, during an interment in the family vault of a resident. When the people came to enter with the coffin they found the body of a person lying on the floor inside the door. The owner of the vault declared that the body was not that of any member of his family. The body was lying on the right side, the head being toward the west. This position was at once remarked as being contrary to the custom of placing remains. One of the family stated that when the vault was last opened, seventeen years ago, the body was in the same position, on the ground and uncoffined. It was then seen to be that of a stranger, but it was not disturbed, and its discovery seemed to have faded from the memory of the people until the latest interment in the vault. Some extraordinary version of the singular incident spread through the district, and Sergt. Hosford and Constable O'Keefe of the local force, Rev. Father Tully, P. P., Lisconnor, and Dr. McDermott, Ennistymon, proceeded to the graveyard, and had the vault opened, and an inspection of the strange body made. It had not been touched since it was seen earlier in the week, and the doctor took it into the open air. It was in a condition resembling that of a mummy, the flesh having dried up. The skull was almost denuded of flesh. The limbs were perfect, and, though the body seemed to be nude, there were traces of thin covering, possibly a winding sheet, which had dried into the body to which it had closely adhered. The doctor gave it as his opinion that the body had been laying as it was found for many years. The sex was female. There was no trace whatever of a coffin about the vault, in which it might have been placed. The body

was replaced in the ordinary position in the vault, the owner consenting, as it had been there for so long. He is perfectly convinced it is not the remains of any member of his family. No one had been missed from the locality as far as the memory of the oldest inhabitant goes, and there is nothing to point to the length of time the body was in the vault. In its condition when discovered, it was, of course, impossible to pronounce an opinion, as to whether death resulted from natural causes or whether the defunct was the victim of foul play. Altogether, the incident is a most extraordinary and inexplicable one, and the mystery in which it is shrouded will probably never be cleared up.

CORK.

Recent deaths in Cork.—On May 21, at 14 Gill Abbey street, Cork, Miss Catherine Canty. May 19, at Meelick cottage, Richard Ryan, aged 96 years. On May 22, at Lubballyhea, Charleville, Michael Burke, aged 25 years. On May 23, at St. Patrick's hospital, Wellington road, Mary Keating, aged 18 years. May 23, Mary Henegan, Bantry. On May 23, Francis Cottrell, Pouladuff road, aged 74 years. At Killarney, May 22, Dr. Paul R. Dillon. On May 18, at Rockboro' road, Daniel Leahy, aged 32 years. On May 18, at Castle lane, Blackrock, Mary O'Leary, aged 18 years. On May 20, at Lough Villas, Catherine Barry. On May 19, at Crash, William Cashman. On May 19, at Drimoleague, Anne Wynne, aged 18 years. On May 21, at 14 Sidney terrace, Wellington road, Bridget McCarthy. On May 23, at Sun View college road, Mary Harvey, at an advanced age. On May 21, at 14 Gill Abbey street, Cork, Miss Catherine Canty.

KERRY.

A young man named Brosnan, while going home from Tralee to O'Brennan, was set upon by some men, dragged from his cart, and so severely beaten that his life is despaired of.

We regret to chronicle the death of Dr. Robert Fitzmaurice, which took place at Cloghers recently, in the 71st year of his age. The deceased was medical officer to the County Fever hospital and the County infirmary in Tralee for many years, and retired through ill-health. He was one of the leading physicians in Tralee, and well known and widely respected throughout the county.

LIMERICK.

The death of Mr. John Gilligan, sr., occurred lately in Voter's Cell, Limerick, aged 72 years. The funeral took place for Mount St. Lawrence cemetery, and the large and representative cortege which followed the remains to the graveside was a testimony of the respect and esteem in which he was held.

TIPPERARY.

A shocking occurrence took place near Nenagh lately, resulting in the horrible injuries to a woman named Flannery by a wild donkey. The woman was crossing a field at Tyone when the animal attacked her, biting her on the arms and body, and inflicting injuries of a terrible nature.

Rev. M. B. Curry, Clonakenny, is raising money to erect a new church in his parish. To assist this good work a successful concert was recently held in Templemore.

The Catholic church of the thriving town of Fethard is being improved by the generous conduct of the people, and under the supervision of Ven. Archdeacon Jones, P. P., the interior is being painted and beautifully decorated, and the exterior undergoing renovation.

Died.—At Cedra, Cahir, of pneumonia, on May 8, Thomas Ryan. In the Land League agitation, when he was brought face to face with obstructions he always stood faithfully by his fellow tenants.

WATERFORD.

The people who inhabit the ancient city of "Portlargo," which, in English, is the "Port of the Thigh," are not afraid to speak of '98, therefore on May 23 they patriotically celebrated the centenary of the heroic and historic effort to shake off English domination made by Irish patriots in '98, a long and magnificent torchlight procession was held. It started from Manor street, down the quay, up Thomas street, into Ballybricken hill, where it terminated. The demonstration was one of the largest seen in Waterford for years.

Margaret Keating, a native of Tallow, who married Peter Burns, died recently in Haverhill, Mass., and left for the benefit of the church in Tallow \$10,000, and \$500 for the good sisters of the Convent of St. Joseph's, Tallow. In all Mrs. Burns died worth \$65,000.

Rev. Dr. Day, Prot-stant Bishop of Cashel, at the last meeting of the Waterford asylum board, approved of that portion of the Irish Local Government bill that will prohibit clergymen from holding seats on the county council boards. Protestant ascendancy is dying hard, fighting every inch of ground.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

The deepest sympathy was felt for Mr. John F. Riordan, solicitor, in the bereavement which he has sustained through the death of his father, Mr. John Riordan, spirit merchant, Great Patrick street, Belfast, which took place on Tuesday at the residence of his brother-in-law, Cornakinnegar, Lurgan, county Armagh. For many years Mr. Riordan conducted a prosperous business in Belfast, and was long and favorably known as a man of inflexible integrity, energy and business capacity.

The remains of Miss Catherine O'Kane, Albert street, Belfast, were removed from 78 Albert street for interment in Milltown cemetery. Deceased, who had been a resident for half a century, was remarkable for her charity and devotion to her religion.

ARMAGH.

John McQuaker, Brown's court, Lurgan, engaged in cleaning the windows at the rear of Dr. J. S. Darling's residence, on High street, and was on a ladder, when he lost his balance, and fell headlong to the yard, striking the ground heavily with his head, and sustained fatal injuries.

DERRY.

At the age of 79 years recently died Mr. Henry Plunkett, Finea. His remains were removed from Manghara to the church in Carrick where office and high mass were offered for the repose of his soul.

Members of Father Murphy '98 club in Ballymaginagan, held a meeting last week. Mr. Joseph Beaton in the chair. The business was the election of officers, with the following result: President, Mr. James Doyle; vice president, Mr. James Mackie; secretary, Mr. Francis McGuigan; treasurer, Mr. John McElhone; committee, Messrs. Joseph Murphy, James Madden, Henry Doyle, Richard Barton and Joseph Beaton.

DONEGAL.

The Derry Journal states there will be a widespread feeling of regret throughout Inishowen when it becomes known that Mr. Michael Harkin of Carndonagh, is no more. Mr. Harkin passed a long life in esteem in Carndonagh, where for many years he was postmaster. He was highly accomplished and his memory is perpetuated in the excellent historical and descriptive sketch, "Inishowen," of which he was the author.

Died.—At the Rock, Ballyshannon, May 19, William James McOlelland, May 16, at Ouladuff, Bridgid O'Kane, and mother of Rev. H. O'Kane, Maghera. May 19, at Muff, Charlotte Fleck. May 19, at The Diamond, Derry, Mary Gill, aged 78 years.

DOWN.

On Thursday the remains of Mr. Henry McGarry, Ballynewport, Downpatrick, were removed for interment in Legamaddy. The funeral was the largest seen in the barony of Lecale for years.

FERRANAGH.

Rev. James Edward McKenna, Enniskillen has been elected a member of the Royal Irish academy.

MONAGHAN.

On May 22 took place the interment of Mrs. Bridget Duffy, Tullinamallow, Castleblaney, in the cemetery of St. Oram. The funeral cortege was long and represented all classes and creeds in the districts.

Sunday Most Rev. Dr. Owens Bishop of Clogher, administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to 200 children in St. McCartan's cathedral. From the schools of the Christian Brothers 60 boys received the Sacrament.

TYRONE.

Mr. John Malone, coroner, Cookstown, held an inquest at Pomeroy lately on the body of Thomas Hagan of Lissan, found dead on the roadside at Corrycroan, on the 14th inst., by Felix Mooney. Dr. Robert Bell was of the opinion that deceased died from syncope of the heart. Verdict accordingly.

An important and representative meeting of the farmers of Cookstown and district was held at the Cookstown courthouse lately to establish a branch of the Ulster Tenants' Defense association, and pass resolutions dealing with the land question.

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