

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.

A seal was captured alive at the Quay in Galway city a few days ago. It was six feet in length and weighed one hundred pounds. It was sent to Dublin.

Henry Grattan Connolly, second son of Mr. Redmond Joyce Connolly, solicitor, Clifton, obtained first place and the medal at the recent examination held for solicitors' apprentices.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, recently ordained for the Archdiocese of Tuam, in Carlow cathedral, Rev. Thomas Lynch (son of Mr. George Crean Lynch, Doogara, Tuam) and on Sunday, at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, by Most Rev. I. R. Walsh, Rev. James Jennings, Rev. James Biggins and Rev. William Diskin (son of Mr. James Diskin, Curraghan, Milltown, and nephew of Rev. Michael Diskin, Abbeyknockmoy).

Doctor A. J. Kerin, Kiwara, who was medical officer for Baladangan dispensary district, died recently, after a few days' illness. He was aged 33 years.

LEITRIM.

The fair of Drumana was held lately and the business was about on the average.

The annual examination of pupils attending the national schools in Drumana was held recently. There was a large number for examination in both schools, and their answering reflected the greatest credit on the teachers, Mr. P. A. Masterson and Miss B. Masterson.

On Sunday a very large number of young persons of Carrick-on-Shannon availed themselves of the excursion given by the Shannon Development Company to Lanesboro. The trip was enjoyed immensely, and the pleasant strains of music from melodeons, concertina and violins resounded along the valleys as the Fairy Queen steamed along the bosom of the lording river.

The death of Mrs. Conway, Dromod, happened lately. Interment was in Annadoff. Funeral cortege long and most respectable. Father Hourigan officiated at the interment.

MAYO.

A prosecution of a sensational character will take place at Westport soon. Three summonses have been served upon Sergt. James Sullivan of the Royal Irish Constabulary, in charge of Mullrany police station, at the suit of Mr. John McHale, president of the United Irish League, the charge being that the defendant forged the prosecutor's name to a letter inciting persons in the district to commit a serious crime. The charges, technically subdivided by the three summonses, are: (1) That he maliciously published of and concerning the prosecutor a defamatory libel, knowing same to be false; (2) that he wilfully, knowingly and unlawfully solicited, asked and required of James Kelly and other persons unknown to join in the commission of an offense, to wit, by force, threats or menaces, to attempt to compel one Martin Kelly to quit his service or lawful employment and (3) that he unlawfully and falsely forged and counterfeited the name of John McHale to a certain writing purporting to have been written to one James Kelly by the said John McHale. The MacDermott, Q. C., Attorney-General of the late Liberal administration, is going down to conduct the prosecution, which in its present form is at the suit of a private complaint, and it is understood that some of the most experienced experts in handwriting in the United Kingdom will be examined during the course of the proceedings.

Mr. Edward Fottrell of Palmerston road, Rathmines, Dublin, died suddenly in the Midland Great Western railway company's hotel, Mullranny, last week.

On June 19 a meeting to found a branch of the United Irish League was held at Louisaburgh. Stirling speeches were delivered by the chairman and by Mr. John O'Donnell, and Mr. Barry also addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting at Lecarvey on Sunday, presided over by Mr. Michael Barry. A branch of the most useful and progressive organization has been formed at Castlebar. Against English aggression and the Irish people...

ple all over must keep the fight on continually.

ROSCOMMON.

Arrangements are being made for the new telegraph station in Gurteen, in Boyle Union district.

SLIGO.

John Killgran, 74 Chestnut Grove, Boutle; England, died lately. Deceased was a native of Ballinagar parish, Kesh, and was 42 years of age. He was a thorough Nationalist. Rev. Father Reynolds officiated at the grave. A very large number of the deceased's friends attended from the Irish National Foresters' Association, the 98 Centennial Association, Irish National League, Coalheavers' Society, and the National Union of Dock Laborers.

The death of Mrs. Gligan, Ten-Mile house, occurred lately, aged 52 years, deeply regretted. Interment was in Kilmorgan; cortege long.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

At the early age of 19 years, on June 4, died Miss Elizabeth Comerford of the Royal Oak, Bagnolstown. The interment was in Wells cemetery; funeral cortege long.

DUBLIN.

On Saturday the remains of Mrs. McDonnell (in religion Sister Mary Bartholomew), foundress and superior of Gloucester street convent, were laid to rest in the little cemetery at High Park convent, Dublin. The numbers that attended the office at Gloucester street and that followed the remains to their last resting place attest to the esteem in which Mother Bartholomew was publicly held. Even those not personally acquainted with Mother Bartholomew may realize the vastness of her life's work from the beautiful convent which her labors erected, giving shelter to a hundred penitents. In the convent at High Park most of her saintly life was spent. She entered it just thirty-eight years ago, being then only 20 years of age.

John Higgins, aged 40 years, slipped into a vat of porter in D'Arcy's brewery, Dublin, last week and was suffocated.

The annual meeting of the Maynooth Union was held in the hall of St. Patrick's College last week. It was a great success. Cardinal Logue presided. This resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That the Maynooth Union extends a cordial welcome to the Maynooth Alumni association of the United States: that the constitution and rules now submitted are hereby approved of, and the new association recognized as a branch of the parent society, and that the letter of application for admission be placed on the records of the Union."

Recent deaths in Dublin—June 25, at 23 Ballsbridge terrace, Mary Jane Baker, aged 26 years. June 25, at 18 Patrick street, Kingstown, James Byrne, Pilot. June 26, at Mount Anville, Dundruin, Jane M. Murray. June 27, at 140 Rathgar road, William J. Doyle, aged 48 years. June 26, at Ballymount, the Rev. P. Bambrick, Kilbride, in the 72d year of his age. At 12 Upper Abbey street, John Beecher, Fermoy, county Cork. June 27, Joseph Boylan. June 28, at 64 Meath street, Daniel Costello, aged 73 years. June 28, at 22 Capel street, Ellen Duff. May 16, at South Union school, Ashdown, Michael Patrick Dobbey, aged 20 years. May 16, at Jobstown, Tallaght, Elizabeth Farrell, aged 70 years. May 18, at 11 Longford terrace, Monkstown, and of 15 Bridgefoot street, James Charles Fitzsimon. May 15, at St. Vincent's hospital, Anne Flynn, 81 Augur street, Dublin. May 16, at 10 Pimlico, Mrs. Rose Fox. May 16, at 25 Lower Mountpleasant avenue, James Hanlon. May 15, at Ballinacredra, Multyarnham, John Kellaghan, aged 74 years. May 16, at 22 St. Patrick's road, Drumcondra, Bridget Maguire.

KILDARE.

Henry Damer, aged 37 years, died suddenly lately while at work in Monasterevan.

Died—June 27, the Rev. Simon McG. Wey, Kilkock, age 55 years. June 25, at Lackagh, Monasterevan, Annie Conlan, eldest daughter of the late Denis Conlan, aged 28 years.

On Sunday a great demonstration was held at Bodenstown Graveyard, in celebration of the birthday of Theobald Wolf Tone, whose remains are buried there. From Dublin no less than five special trains were run in quick succession, an even then so much did the crowd exceed expectations that a great number had to be left behind.

KILKENNY.

Patrick Maher, Ballyalten House, Gorebridge, died June 27; deeply regretted.

Patrick Fennelly, Patrick Shelly, Patrick Donovan and Marks Grainger are members of the Callan Board of Guardians.

Michael Cantwell, collier, was drowned in River Owen, at Moonenore, near Castlecomer, a few days ago while bathing.

KINGS.

An inquiry was held by the M at Rev. Dr. Nulty, bishop of Meath; Right Rev. Mgr. Gaffney, Clara; Very Rev. Hugh Behan, Tullamore, and Rev. M. Woods, Kahan, at the Parochial house, Tullamore, as to the circumstances under which John Cawley, N. T., was dismissed from his position as principal of the Tubber National school. Father Monahan, Father O'Connell and the four other witnesses were examined and the teacher presented his case. After a sitting of three hours the proceedings terminated. The decision will be made in due course.

LONGFORD.

Patrick Kieran died recently at his mother's residence, Tonneywarden; deeply regretted. He was lately from Reanywade house, Leitlip, Kildare.

LOUTH.

With sincere regret we chronicle the death of Mrs. Rose McEvoy, Ballyearack, Dundalk. Deceased was widely and deeply regretted. She was 88 years. Rev. Charles McEvoy, pastor Tynan, Armagh, is her son.

MEATH.

Sister Josephine of the Convent of Mercy, Beacon Lane, Liverpool, Eng., died June 8. In the world she was Annie Gargan, daughter of Patrick Gargan, Ashbourne.

Died—June 25 at Academy street, Navan, Charles Curry, aged 53 years. June 25, at Slane, Kate A. Johns. n. At 128 Summer Hill, Thomas Kennedy, shipwright, late of James street, Harbour. June 5, at Carlanstown, Kells, Mrs. Annie O'Reilly, late principal teacher of Carlanstown, F. N. S., in her 69th year; deeply and deservedly regretted. Interment was in Moyalty.

QUEEN'S.

John Brennan, inspector on the W. & C. I. railway, died suddenly in Maryborough lately. He retired to bed as usual in the best of health. Early the following morning his wife observed him breathing heavily, and attempting to wake him, noticed his face discolored. She immediately summoned assistance and sent for a priest and doctor, but it was too late. The deceased was a man of very steady, sober habits, and was a devout, practical Catholic.

Mrs. Walsh, Kill-gues, near Athlone, was arrested lately and committed to Tullamore jail for taking forcible possession of her farm from which she had been evicted. The landlord is Mr. Potts. After the death of the late tenant's husband, eviction proceedings were taken, but she was allowed in possession as a caretaker, and then ejected under the eviction-made-easy clauses of the Land Act of 1887, and she has twice taken forcible possession. Recently the farm was bought by a member of the Poor Law board for \$303 and Mrs. Walsh was offered £80 for her interest. She refused. The case of this poor young woman is all the more distressing as the trials she was met with have affected her mind. Two of her little children were removed prior to her arrest to the workhouse. Mrs. Walsh is very respectably connected.

WEXFORD.

Patrick Byrne, Barnoun, who was a sailor on the schooner Zion Hill, owned by Mr. Stafford of Wexford, was killed by a fall in the Port of Ayr, Scotland, a few days ago.

WICKLOW.

The funeral of the late Mr. Nicholas O'Brien, Baltinglass, took place lately and was numerously attended.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

Bridget O'Brien of Cree during last week got a weakness, fell into the fire and suffered such serious injury from burns that she now lies in the County Infirmary.

Rev. M. Kely, P. P., Brooklyn; Mr. W. McGrath, New York; Mr. J. McAndrews, Baltimore, were staying at the Eagle hotel recently.

On June 19 was held the public demonstration in Ennis in celebration of the anniversary of the birth of

Theobald Wolfe Tone. It was a most enthusiastic meeting, and bore testimony to desire for independence which the men of Clare will never abandon until the object be accomplished.

We regret to chronicle the death of Miss M. Foley, Sixmilebridge, daughter of Mr. Louis Foley. Deceased was only 22 years of age. The large concourse which attended the funeral showed the appreciation in which the deceased had been held, and the sympathy which is felt for her relatives. The Rev. Father Little, P. P., officiated at the grave.

CORK.

Mrs. Margaret Heffernan, wife of Mr. H. Heffernan, national school teacher, Castlelyons, was killed lately by a horse running away. Mrs. Heffernan was on the vehicle when the animal took to flight.

June 28 in the Parochial House, Monkstown, Canon McNamara closed a life of priestly labor and zeal which for fifty years made his name revered and honored in this diocese.

The Queenstown branch of the 98 Centenary association at its last meeting donated as a first installment \$50 to the Wolfe Tone monument fund in Dublin.

We regret to chronicle the death of Dean O'Regan, Mitchelstown, which took place Thursday. Born in Malin in 1808, he was in his 91st year. He was one of the most venerated figures in the religious and political life of Ireland. The following telegram was received in Mitchelstown from the House of Commons: "The members of the Irish parliament now in London desire to express their grief and profound sense of the great loss the Irish nation has sustained by the death of the venerable Dean O'Regan, who has for two generations occupied a position in the forefront of the national movement. Signed on behalf of the Irish party John Dillon, Edward Blake, Michael Davitt, T. P. O'Connor."

The death of Mrs. O'Connor, mother of Benjamin O'Connor, chairman of the Henry town commissioners, will be very generally regretted. The funeral took place from the Abbey on Tuesday, and bore ample testimony to the respect in which the deceased was held.

LIMERICK.

The Inter-County Gaelic championships in foot ball and hurling took place Sunday at the Greenpark race-course between Limerick and Clare in the presence of an exceedingly large number of spectators. Mr. Deering, Cork, president of the Council, acted as referee in both cases, his decisions in all cases being received with perfect unanimity. In foot ball the Limerick Commercial met the Ennis club, and the former maintained their all-Ireland reputation, winning in splendid style by 9 points to 4 and having the best of the play throughout. The second match for hurling between Tulla, Clare, and Kilkinnane, Limerick, did not commence until too late in the evening. The match was a close one during the first half time, the score standing Kilkinnane, 1 goal 3 points, to 1 goal 1 point for Tulla.

The death of Mrs. Nestor, Coolcappa, occurred recently. Interment was in Ballynakill; funeral cortege long and representative.

The death of J. P. Griffin of the Limerick Commercial football club took place after a brief illness at Ardagh. The deceased was a very popular member of the Commercial and played in the recent all-Ireland match at Dublin about five months since.

On June 20 the solemn ceremony of religious profession took place at the Presentation convent hospital. The young lady who made her vows and received the black veil was Miss Helena Hartigan, in religion Sister Mary Xavier, fourth daughter of the late Thomas Hartigan, Boher house, Brufl. Very Rev. A. F. Canon Scully officiated.

The announcement of the death of John J. O'Sullivan, J. P., Kilmallock, which occurred June 22, was received with sincere feelings of regret. He was the son of the late W. H. O'Sullivan, M. P. In politics he was a staunch Nationalist, was president of the National Federation, and took the chair at the great Kilmallock demonstration on behalf of the evicted tenants, which was addressed by Messrs. Dillon and Davitt. At the last general election he was invited by the Irish party to sit for a division of Limerick county, but refused. Mr. O'Sullivan was in constant request at concerts and social functions, and there is scarcely a place within a radius of fifty miles where his comic songs have not set the houses in a roar. In Kilmallock he was loved, and when his death was announced

every business establishment closed. He was 38 years of age.

KERRY.

A young man named O'Connor, of very respectable family, was shot to death at 2 o'clock, a. m., in the village of Waterville. It is alleged that O'Connor and other persons were found near the salmon weir, convenient to Mr. James E. Butler's residence, by two brothers named Riordan, in charge, and that O'Connor was shot by one of the Riordans, who are in custody. The tragic occurrence has cast the greatest gloom over the district.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

The Ligoniel flax spinning company of Belfast, has become insolvent, owing to great irregularities. Liabilities are over \$300,000, assets, \$230,000.

David and Leitia Boyd—brother and sister—evicted tenants, were charged in the Whiteabbey court house last week with taking forcible possession of the farm in Knockagh, from which they were evicted. The case has not been concluded.

ARMAGH.

The usual monthly meeting of the I. N. F., Keady branch, was held Sunday, Mr. R. O'Neill, T. C., in the chair. He pointed out the pleasure he had in presiding over such an overflowing meeting.

During two weeks a most successful mission was conducted in Keady by Very Rev. Father Falvey, O. P., Prior Feary and Very Rev. Father Crotty, O. P., Newbridge. Kildare. The success of the mission must be eminently satisfactory to the esteemed parish priest, Very Rev. Canon Coyne, and his zealous curates, Rev. Patrick Valley, Rev. P. McShane and Rev. Francis Devine. On the last night not only was the spacious church in Keady crowded to the door, but a great number were obliged to remain outside. The rosary was recited by Rev. Father Crotty, after which Rev. Father Falvey delivered a powerful closing sermon on perseverance. The Papal benediction having been given, the devotions closed with solemn benediction of the Blessed Sacrament, the Very Rev. Father Falvey being the officiant.

DERRY.

Sunday evening at 8.15 a procession in honor of the Most Holy Sacrament was formed at the high altar in Magherafelt. The church was crowded. Five hundred took part in the procession.

An event of great interest to English Catholics will occur next year. This will be the golden jubilee of the London Oratory. On the 26th of May, 1839, it will have been 50 years since Father Faber, sent there by Dr. Newman, established the first foundation of the Oratorians in London, in King William street, Strand, where a temporary church was opened by Dr. Wiseman, then Vicar-Apostolic of the London district. The only surviving members of the first community are Father Stanton and Father Gordon. In 1854 the Oratory was transferred to Brompton, where the original church has given place to a magnificent edifice, which in its majestic proportions fittingly symbolizes the growth and extent of the work which the Oratorians have done and are still doing. More than 7,000 converts have been received into the church at the Oratory.

Most Catholics say their daily prayers regularly. If, at confession, the priest asks, "Do you say your prayers?" they answer, "Yes, father," without any qualm or afterthought. But if the question were, "Do you pray?" how many would say yes with the same cheerful confidence? Recall the passage in the much-worn little catechism that you used to know so well years ago, which says what it is to pray: The lifting up of the soul to God, and the rest of it, and then think whether or not you pray, though you say your prayers with absolute regularity.

The Fathers of the Baltimore council said: "Finally, Christian parents, let us beg your earnest consideration of this important truth, that upon you singly and individually, must practically depend the solution of the question whether or not the Catholic press is to accomplish the great work which Providence and the Church expect of it at this time."

Major General John J. Coppinger is fourth in rank according to length of service, having thirty-six years and six months to his credit in the United States army.

Is the Catholic Church Exclusive?

If we but look at the face of the Christian world at this moment, and at the face of our country especially we will see two facts. The one is that human systems are always enlarging themselves, and taking in all manner of contradictions, including all manner of mingled truth, and when a doubt arises upon any question, throwing it open. The second is, that within the circumference of every human community, of every Church invented by man, we will find contradictory doctrines continually multiplying; they were subdividing themselves moreover, and becoming more and more as time went on. How is it with the Church of God, the Catholic Church? It being divine, is true therefore must be exclusive. Truth, being one, is necessarily exclusive. And yet, according to worldly-minded men, no term of reproach can be greater than to be exclusive. Nevertheless, to a reflecting mind it must be clear that the one thing in the world which is most exclusive is Truth. Truth will admit of no contradiction, and all the world knows it. When it is a question of science, the exact sciences which are the most absolute go on perpetually, excluding every doubt, every error, every hypothesis which cannot be proved. Where doubt exists, there is no science, where science is there is no doubt; and the exact sciences, the mathematical and physical sciences, which are perpetually extending, advancing and comprehending more and more of the energy of the world, those sciences are exclusive in their operations. And why? Because Truth can never contradict itself. When we come to the question of Christian truth, why is it that the intellect of men should wonder and conceive that Christian truth means perpetually multiplying contradictions and open questions, on which man may think as he likes? There are two lines which many men have heard: "For points of faith let senseless bigots fight He can't be wrong whose life is in the right."

Well without waiting to show up the full truth of these lines, let us paraphrase them and say:

"For charts and compasses senseless bigots fight He can't be wrecked who steers his ship aright."

Certainly, but who is it that can steer aright without charts and compasses? If there were no charts and compasses, the shores of the whole world would be strewn with wrecks. There is only one person who without charts and compasses can steer the ship, and it is He who by His word commanded the winds and the waves, and who guides His own Church. His Holy Spirit abides with that Church to teach all truth, and abides with it forever. It is perfectly true that the Catholic Church is the most exclusive and the most dogmatic of all authorities on the face of this earth, and that is because it knows that the deviation of a hair's breadth from the Truth as it is in Jesus Christ is a wandering away from the way of eternal life. Look at the history of the Church at all times. There arose in the most early times of the Church men who said that the Son of God was God—yes, and had a Divine nature, but not the very nature of the Father; and the change they made in the Creed was that they left out an iota; and what did the Church do? It condemned them all, tyrannically, as the world will say; and for this reason, that that one iota changed the whole truth of the revealed Faith of God. Then later on there were men who began to philosophize and deny the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ in the Holy Sacrament. What did the Church do? It defined the Real Presence in the very words we use to this day. Later again men began to indulge themselves in two ways—in being cold and worldly, and in being disputatious and contentious about the Humanity of our Divine Lord. What did the Church do? By the inspiration of God it instituted the great devotion of the Sacred Heart.

His Last Words.

In the city of Bonn, Germany, a surgeon was about to perform an operation on a peasant suffering from a cancer on the tongue. The surgeon warned him that the operation meant loss of speech for the remainder of his days. "If you have a wish to express, do so now," he added. "It is the last word you will ever pronounce." For a moment the peasant bent his head in thought; then with a touching accent of faith, he exclaimed: "Praise be to Jesus Christ!" They were his last words.

When the 3,000 troops of New Jersey were mobilized at Sea Girt a few weeks ago, it was found that 1,800 of them were Catholics.