

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.

Miss Rita Moylan, Tuam, daughter of the late Mr. John Moylan, and sister of the late Rev. John Moylan, the Neale, in religion Sister M. John Baptist; Miss Shannon, Poxton, county Clare, in religion Sister M. Clement; and Miss Hayes, Doon, county Limerick, in religion Sister M. Stephen, were received into the Order of Mercy at the convent, Loughrea, lately. The ceremony was performed by Monsignor Madden. Present: Father Maloney, Father Mohilly, Father O'Donovan and Father O'Quinn.

A meeting was held in the school-room, Mount Bellew, lately, to welcome Most Rev. Dr. Carr, Archbishop of Melbourne, to his native parish. The meeting was presided over by Sir H. Grattan Bellow, Bart. The welcome accorded was most enthusiastic to Bishop Carr. The address was read by the Rev. Thomas Ronayne.

The death of the teacher of the National school of Carrick, Ballinlough, which happened lately, caused great sorrow in the district. He left a wife and eleven children to mourn his loss. "Past Student" has made an appeal for funds to assist the widow and orphans to their old "master." It is hoped he will be successful.

KILMORE.

Mr. Thomas Carroll of Kilmore died recently. He was father of Mr. Roger Carroll, postmaster. The residents deeply regret the demise of Mr. Carroll.

All the preliminaries in connection with the purchase of the Crofton estate have at last been completed, and Mr. Stuart is to attend to the contract with the tenants confirmed and settled for good and all.

Died—May 2, at Smythesdale, Victoria, Australia, James Kiernan of Carrigallen. He was a justice of the peace in Victoria for many years, and was mayor of Smythesdale.

MAYO.

An influential public meeting was held at the courthouse, Westport, lately, to consider the question of providing local industries as a means of permanently relieving distress in the west. Mr. Samuel Ritchie Greer, industries organizer, addressed the meeting. On the motion of the Rev. John A. Bain, M. A., Presbyterian minister, the chair was taken by the Rev. Father Healy, Adm., Westport. Mr. Greer, in the course of a lengthy statement, said his proposal was to start small industries in the distressed districts by purchasing machines with public subscriptions or grants supplied by the public, these machines to be loaned out for the use of the girls. The class of goods to be made is hosiery, cheap shirts, aprons and pinafores.

Mrs. Mary Munnely, Binghamtown, Belmullet, died lately, deeply regretted by the people of the surrounding districts. Deceased had reached the extraordinary age of 92 years. She was sister to the Rev. M. Munnely, pastor, Kilmora, Erris.

Mr. Michael Joseph Hastings, son of Mrs. Dominick Hastings, Bridge street, Westport, died lately, at the age of 23 years, deeply and widely regretted. The funeral to Oughavale cemetery on Tuesday was remarkably large.

ROSCOMMON.

On June 26 died Rev. P. Bambrick of Kilbride at the advanced age of 72. Father Bambrick was born at Cootehall, Feb. 9, 1826. He received his early education at a local grammar school, and subsequently at Summerhill, Athlone and Maynooth, where he completed his studies and was ordained. He was stationed at Kilmora, Roscommon, Boyle, Geovagh, Athlone, Clifney and Derrane or Kilbride, the latter place where he had been for ten years previous to his death.

Mr. Thomas Jenkins surprised the people of Strokestown a few days ago by carrying seven hundredweight in his arms. He made several bets on the event and raked in some cash.

SLIGO.

A meeting of the members of the Geovagh branch of the I. N. F. was held on Sunday. Mr. Thomas Fallon presided. Present: Michael Conlon, John Cawley, John Tivnan, Peter McLaughlin, Edward McLaughlin,

Pat Conlon, Patrick Cullen, John O'lon, James McDonough, John Keane, Edward McDonough, James Waters. After the enrollment of some new members the following resolution was unanimously passed: "That we, the members of the above branch I. N. F., do join with our fellow Nationalists of Riverstown in condemning Dominic Higgins of Rathmulpatrik for his mean and unworthy act in associating with the Coolamoonen grabber, and we pledge ourselves to stand by the gallant men of Riverstown until black-legs are brought to their knees, and until the Coolamoonen creature surrenders his grab, and we applaud Mr. Bartley McDonough of Ummerroe in his noble action of sending the grabber to the road and refusing him for his wants. Patrick McDonough, James McManus, secs.

The meeting of the Ballymote National Teachers association was held last week. Mr. M. Doyle presided. The other members present were: McGowan (vice-chairman), Brennan, (sec.), Shearn, McDermott, Henry, P. Scanian, Drury (new member), Lavin and Quigley. The officers having resigned, a cordial vote of thanks was given them for the efficient manner in which they discharged their respective duties. Mr. Doyle, chairman, expressed his determination not to accept any official capacity in the association for the present, but his conferees unanimously elected him chairman, he was compelled to reconsider his determination and finally accepted office.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

On June 21 were interred in Tomard cemetery the remains of Mrs. Mary Dolan. The funeral was attended numerously, and deep regret was expressed at the death of Mrs. Dolan. Her relatives and friends in the United States and Australia will learn of her death with extreme regret.

Died—June 17, feast of the Sacred Heart, in the Good Shepherd convent, Waterford, Bridget Kelly, (Sister M. St. Denis), fifth daughter of the late Patrick Kelly, Snowy Vale, county Carlow, sister of the Rev. J. J. Kelly, P. P., Ballyn, Queen's county.

By the death of Mr. Patrick Maher, Ballyyellen, lately, the county lost one of its most popular men. The office and solemn requiem mass for the repose of his soul was celebrated in Bagnalstown.

DUBLIN.

Rev. H. O'Tools, Blackrock college, has invented a new and improved form of hydrometer. It was exhibited at a recent meeting of the Royal Dublin society.

At a meeting of the Parnellites of the Dublin Corporation, it was decided by 16 votes to 15 that Sir Robert Sexton, Conservative, would be that party's candidate for the mayoralty of 1899.

The weekly meeting of the Ulstermen's '98 club was held at 87 Marlborough street, Dublin, lately, Mr. M. McGlinn occupying the chair. The chairman announced the lecturer, who on rising was greeted with enthusiasm, and stated that the subject of the discourse was "Flashes from the Pike." The paper dealt with the events connected with the county Antrim during the memorable year of 1798, from the arrest and trial of William Orr in Carrickfergus in 1787.

"Where the jury, drunk, agreed, That Irish was his creed," and who took away the life of that noble young patriot. The passages of the lecture dealing with the character of William Orr were most pathetic, and Orr's legacy to his young children to continue the struggle for which he was giving up his life, and his wish that the babe unborn would, when it came into the world, be taught to follow in his father's footsteps. The lecturer proceeded to deal with the other leaders of the North, describing graphically the actions and characteristics of Henry Joy McCracken, Neilson, Hope, Bartholomew, Teeling. The lecturer concluded by rendering Dr. Drennan's inspiring poem, "The Lament of William Orr," and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks on the motion of Mr. Mooney, seconded by Mr. P. O'Shea, (Emerald '98 club), Mr. O'Clohessy, (Old Guard), and Mr. McGlinn, president of the club, supporting same.

KILDARE.

Mrs. John Hartigan, Maynooth, died lately at the residence of her sister at 48 Marlborough street, Dublin. She was the daughter of the late Laurence Nugent, Clare, county of Meath. Interment was in Mainham.

On June 24 Dr. P. L. O'Neill held an inquest at Bray, near Atby, on the body of Patrick Higgins, killed accidentally through a load of brick passing over him. The jury's verdict was

"accidental death." We regret to record the death of Mrs. Cogan, Irishtown, Athy, wife of Mr. Thomas Cogan, which occurred June 23. The funeral was of immense proportions, the cars extending over more than a mile of the road. High mass for the repose of her soul was celebrated by the Rev. L. Doyle.

KILKENNY.

We regret to record the death of Mr. John Wallace of Moolum, Kilkenny. He was father of Mr. Michael Wallace of the Ship hotel, Quay, Waterford, a sterling Nationalist.

Father William Phelan, a native of Mooncoin, who has been in Canada for over thirty years, lately visited his natal place.

KINGS.

The potato crop around Banagher is seriously injured by blight. The effects of the disease are not apparent in the early gardens and in the loamy soils bordering on the Shannon. One week ago the farmers were hopeful of a bountiful potato crop, but the dread disease dissipated their expectations.

On June 23 James Leeson, Derry-mullen, asked the skipper of the steamer that trades on the Grand Canal to be taken on board below Technevin lock to enable him to get to Edenderry. When the steamer arrived between the tunnel and the Downshire bridge Leeson put his foot on the edge of the stern with the intention of jumping toward the bank, but his foot slipped and he fell into the canal and was drowned. An inquest was held in Edenderry workhouse touching Leeson's death.

LONGFORD.

On Sunday a week's retreat was opened in Newtownforbes by Rev. Father Spence, of the Dominican order, and on last Sunday week a retreat was opened in Whitehall chapel, in the parish of Tarmoharry, county Roscommon, by two of the Redemptorist Fathers. Both missions have been remarkably well attended.

The Edgeworthstown branch of the '98 centenary association agreed to send representatives to the ceremony of laying the foundation of the Wolfe Tone memorial in Dublin.

A cricket match between Longford cricket club and the boys from St. Mel's college was played Saturday. The game was witnessed by a large number of spectators and resulted in an easy victory for the Longford C. C.

Among those who received orders at the close of the year's studies in Maynooth college this summer were the following from the diocese of Ardagh: Sub-deacons Messrs. Edward Bridoy, Francis Whitley, Patrick Donohoe, John Goodwin and John Farrell. Deacons—Rev. John Cooney, Rev. Edward Bridoy, Rev. Francis Whitley, Rev. Patrick Donohoe, Rev. James Bannon, Rev. John Goodwin and Rev. John Farrell. The conferring of the order of priesthood on these young clergymen will probably be performed by the Most Rev. Dr. Hoare, Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

Thomas Gardner, aged 18, of Old Mill street, Ennis, was drowned while bathing last week.

Mr. Thomas Stanislaus Cleary, who founded the Clare Independent in Ennis, died recently in Killaloe, deeply and widely regretted.

The death of Mr. Thomas Fitzsimons, Dysert, Borrhigone, occurred June 29, at the age of 54 years. Deceased was ever in the van of the forces fighting for Irish freedom. His remains were removed from Robertstown church to Knockpatrick for interment; funeral cortege long.

CORK.

The death occurred on Friday afternoon, June 24, of Very Rev. Canon J. McNamara, Monkstown. He was educated at Maynooth, and after being called to the priesthood, held office for some time at Kinsale. He was subsequently attached to the Cork Cathedral. From this city he went to Monkstown, of which he was parish priest since 1876. Canon McNamara was an ardent advocate for temperance, and engaged in many works of philanthropy and public usefulness.

Dean O'Regan, Mitchelstown, who died recently, was in his 91st year. He was born on St. Patrick's day, 1808, at Mallon, where he obtained his primary and intermediate courses of education. A few years previous to the passing of the Catholic Emancipation Bill he entered Maynooth college. His first mission was in Cloyne in 1832. Last year he presided at a republican mass in Mitchelstown for the repose of the soul of Daniel O'Connell.

KERRY.

Thomas Lynch and eleven children were recently evicted from a farm at Meelick, landlord, Orpen of Dublin. It is said Lynch owed 8 years' rent, and that the landlord is considered a good kind of man. How can tenants, all the same, pay a rent the land will not yield?

Father Browne, C. C., of Ballymacelligott, has been appointed P. P., of Bonane and Glengarriff; Father Dillon, C. C., Lixnaw, replaces Father Brown in Ballymacelligott, and Father Flynn comes from the London mission to replace Father Dillon as C. C. in Lixnaw.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

Miss Mary Ann Liddy of 25 McCleery street, Belfast, died lately, after an illness of three months. The cortege that accompanied her remains for interment in Friar's Bush cemetery was long and representative of all in the locality.

ARMAGH.

The death of Mr. Augustine Burke, Middletown, occurred June 21 and caused deep and widespread regret. The new church of St. Patrick, Ballymacnab, near Armagh, was dedicated on Sunday. The want of a new edifice was so keenly felt it became urgent that the Rev. Patrick Corr, pastor, decided with the approval of Cardinal Logue, to erect a new church. The old church bears the date 1751. The ceremony was performed by Cardinal Logue, Archbishop of Armagh.

CAVAN.

Mrs. Michael Gallagher, daughter of the late Mr. Peter McCann, Cavan, died June 30 at 14 Summer street, Dublin.

DERRY.

Mr. Patrick O'Hogan presided at the last meeting of the Desertmountain branch of the '98 Centenary association, and said the soldiers now wearing the United States uniform were the descendants of the men butchered by England in Ireland during 1798. He denounced the proposed Anglo-American alliance.

DONEGAL.

Mrs. Hugh Gilmartin, Bundoran, died suddenly lately. An inquest was held and a verdict of death from heart failure was rendered.

DOWN.

Mr. Daniel McConville, Baubridge, who died lately, had been teacher of the National school, but retired in 1895. Thirty years ago he was appointed teacher of Banbridge, being then in charge of Glasgow N. S. After regulated services the procession proceeded to the burial ground.

MONAGHAN.

On June 21 died Mr. Edward Smyth of Drumbrooney, Carrick, Macross, deeply regretted.

Mr. J. Connolly, vice-president of the Jack Connolly '98 club, Clones, presided at last meeting. The club has obtained a recreation ground for the members. Their Memorial hall will be opened August 15, and Mr. John O'Leary, president of the '98 Central executive, will perform the ceremony. The leaders of the different National Parliamentary parties will be invited to speak, as also the county members. The men of Clones are most practical in their ways. 'This will be a club with the real "Irish go" in it.

The landlords are fighting every inch of ground under the Land Acts. They believe the acts that give a little justice to the tenants are unwarrantable invasions on their rights. When the tenants get reductions which are not assailed by the landlords, it may be safely assumed that they are not of any consequence to the landlords or of help to the farmers. The appended report is a sample of how the landlords are fighting the reductions, and in many cases succeeding in having an increase made in the rents. Mr. Justice Meredith, commissioner the Hon. Gerald Fitzgerald, and Mr. Commissioner O'Brien sat in the courthouse, Monaghan, a few days ago to hear Land Commission appeals from the Union of Monaghan.

TYRONE.

We deeply regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Patrick Meenan, Corbally House, Fintona, which happened on June 20, at the age of 60 years. Deceased was father of Rev. John Meenan, C. C., Magheracloon. Office and high mass were numerously attended. James Moffat of Strews, was lately found dead outside his home. For some time previous he had suffered from fits of despondency.

MADE UP BY 'PHONE.

I don't profess to be able to see further into a brick wall than my neighbors, but it really required no extraordinary degree of intelligence to perceive that my nephew Gerald was very much in love with little Amy Creswell. I wasn't, therefore, in the least surprised the other evening, soon after we arrived at the Willards' to dinner, to hear the Creswells announced, and I laughed in my sleeve when I called to mind the sudden eagerness which my nephew had shown in calling on the Willards when he found out that they were friends of the Creswells.

That Gerald was no exception to the ordinary run of lovers I soon had cause to realize, for he and Amy Creswell had a tiff at dinner that very evening, which, but for a happy inspiration on the part of the writer of this simple tale, might have ended in their permanent estrangement. It was all on account of a certain Capt. Lachmere, of whom Gerald didn't happen to approve, and who had been for some time paying marked attentions to Miss Amy Creswell.

That young lady didn't really care a button for the man in question, but she not unnaturally resented any attempt on Gerald's part to put a stop to her intimacy with him. And so it came to pass that, before dinner was half over, these two young people were engaged in as pretty a little quarrel as you could well wish to see.

Of course, neither of them supposed for an instant that I or anybody else had heard a word of their dispute, but in the course of an acquaintance with what is so appropriately termed "polite society," one acquires the valuable knack of carrying on a conversation with one person while one's attention is really mainly occupied with something which is going on elsewhere.

"You are perfectly right," Miss Creswell said, "Gerald really is a little business to say what I did about a gentleman who appears to be such a particular friend of yours. Please consider my remarks as withdrawn." And with this he turned to his right-hand neighbor, May Walshe, and commenced to chatter with a really surprising degree of animation.

Poor little Miss Creswell was for the moment placed at a disadvantage, for it was rather a foregone hope for her to attempt to make Gerald jealous by commencing a flirtation with me, but there happened to be nobody else available at the moment.

I laughed in my sleeve when this mere child, whom I remembered in short frocks, opened her feigned attack upon me, but I conscientiously did my best to help the situation along handsomely, and I really felt quite gratified when presently I observed that Gerald's animated conversation with Miss Walshe was beginning to flag, and that he was casting glances of unmistakable surprise and annoyance in my direction.

"Ah, my dear Miss Amy," I murmured, with a well-simulated sigh, "we old bachelors miss a great deal in life. What would I not give to be once again my nephew's age? I should know how to use my opportunities."

"But you aren't really a bit old, and, besides, men never understand us a bit until they have had 20 years' experience of the world."

"I fear that we never really understand you thoroughly," said I. "The study of your charming sex is like the study of a book, each page of which requires pages and pages of explanatory notes."

"Have you read much of the book?" asked Amy, with a little side glance out of the corner of her gray eyes.

"I never got further than the first chapter," I replied, with a sigh.

"And what did you find to prevent you from getting further?"

"I found that 20 different women might possess 20 different sets of charming qualities, all so deliciously attractive and so eminently desirable that, for the life of me, I could not make up my mind to content myself with any one of the dear creatures to the exclusion of the rest; I am obliged to remain a forlorn old bachelor—I love too much to love exclusively."

"I think you put that rather nicely," said Amy reflectively; "but isn't it only a pretty excuse for a man's inconstancy?"

"My dear young lady," said I laughing, "constancy is only another name for narrow-mindedness. Suppose, for instance, that I had been married 10 years ago, what would have been my position at the present moment?"

"I don't quite understand, Mr. Stevens."

"Miss Creswell is evidently unaware of her own attractions," said I; "there is a marginal note, destructive to previous attachments, against your name in the book of which I was speaking."

"What about men from a woman's point of view?" she continued presently. "Are you men such paragons that we poor women must be satisfied with a share of one of you?"

"There are not enough to go round," I murmured.

"Suppose, now, that we started the theory that no man possessed more than one or two of the many virtues which a perfect man should possess?" continued Amy, ignoring my interruption.

"And how do you yourself feel on that point?"

"Upon my word, when I talk to you I almost begin to feel that you are right, and that I am not so very old after all."

"Is it a pleasant illusion, Mr. Stevens?"

"It has its drawbacks." "Which are—?" said Amy, raising her prettily arched eyebrows.

"My nephew is one of them just now," said I, glancing at Gerald, and in truth the boy's rueful countenance did rather take the edge off my appreciation of the situation.

"He's horribly cross to-night," said Amy, "and it serves him right!"

"Tell me," said I, suddenly, looking full at my little neighbor, "does it give you pleasure to make him unhappy?"

"Poor little Amy's lip quivered, but she replied, "He shouldn't have been so horrid about Capt. Lachmere."

"I have no doubt Capt. Lachmere is a very charming man," said I; "but—" "I hate him!" said Amy, pouting; "and if your nephew had any sense he would know that."

"Of course he ought to, especially as you said the gentleman was one of your particular friends, and that you liked him so much?"

"You mustn't take everything which a woman says about one man to another too literally."

"It is perhaps wise to allow a liberal discount," I agreed.

"What a delightful girl that little Miss Creswell is!" said I to my nephew as we were driving home.

"So you appeared to think," said Gerald drily. "For my part I hate all women."

"At your age, my dear boy, such sentiments are really incomprehensible." She's a heartless little flirt!" replied Gerald fiercely, and I've done with her."

For the next few days Gerald acted upon this resolve and certainly during that time he was not altogether a desirable companion.

Here were two foolish young people, genuinely fond of one another, and yet determined to quarrel about a perfectly trivial matter, simply because both were too proud to make the first overture to bring about a reconciliation.

After four or five days of this kind of thing, I came to the conclusion that it was desirable for me to do something to help matters along a little, as anything would be better than the continuation of the existing state of affairs.

I thought the matter over carefully one night, as I smoked my usual after-dinner cigar, and by the time I had finished my weed I had decided upon my plan of campaign.

"What are your plans for to-morrow, Gerald?" said I.

"I haven't any," replied my nephew moodily.

"Well, then, you might come with me and leave a card at the Willards'; we haven't been near the house since we dined there last Wednesday."

It really was a striking instance of self-sacrifice on the part of an old fogy, for I hadn't the slightest personal desire to go out that night.

When I arrived at the club I went straight to the telephone cupboard and rang up the hotel Albermarle. Miss Creswell was "at home."

"Could she speak to Mr. Stevens?" I had made up my mind to attempt a maneuver which required some little finesse for the securing of its success.

Presently Miss Amy's voice came faintly along the wire—"Yes, who is it?"

"Is that you, Amy?" I replied boldly. "Yes; who are you?"

"Gerald Stevens," said I, with mental reservations.

I fancied that I heard a little exclamation of pleased surprise, but whether this was so or not I could not be positively certain; however, the next sentence was spoken in tones of perfect unconcern.

"What is it that you have to say to me, Mr. Stevens?"

"O, Amy," I replied, in the most beseeching tones I could muster, "don't speak to me like that; I've been so miserable ever since we quarreled the other night!"

"That only serves you right," came clearly through the ear-trumpet; but I fancied I caught two little words in a much lower tone, that sounded like "Poor boy!"

"But, Amy," I continued, "don't be so cruel as to say that you won't forgive me, for it was only because I am so fond of you that I was so rude the other evening."

"Well, Gerald, you were rather horrid, I think; but, if you will promise never to be unkind to me again, I will forgive you for this once."

"I promise," said I; "but I wish we could kiss and make friends."

"That would hardly be proper, I'm afraid; besides, you see, you could only kiss my ear, which would not be very satisfactory, would it? And how do I know that you are the only person at your end of the wire?"

"I swear there's nobody except myself," said I equivocally; "besides, you might put the trumpet to your lips."

"I shall ring off if you say another word."

"Don't do that," I entreated; "the operator might intercept my message."

"Well, then, you must not talk nonsense."

"I was never more serious in my life," I replied; and really it was rather a serious situation for an old bachelor getting on for 50 to be talking nonsense at one end of a wire with a charming girl of 18 at the other.

"I shall be calling on the Willards to-morrow afternoon," said I.

"I hope you will find your visit amusing."

"I shall if somebody else happens to be there."

A I

PRELU

Brides

asta

ities

Gay

Mar

Africa

pound

the 5

that t

cows

sical i

Joices

a, his

ha an

in with

ing to

For li

charge

his da

bovine

"Bride

less to