

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.

Among the recently ordained priests in Maynooth College was Father John Carr of Galway City.

Miss Byrne, postmistress of Tuam having resigned, the town commissioners have requested the post office authorities to appoint her nephew, Peter O'Flanagan.

Right Rev. Dr. McCormack, bishop of Galway, has agreed to preside at a public meeting in Galway City to demand the five hundred thousand dollars due the national teachers of Ireland, which are withheld by the paternal British government. Those at the meeting will also demand that the salaries of the Irish teachers be increased to the levels of the same classes in England and Scotland.

LEITRIM.

On Sunday the members of the Oliver Bond Centenary club of Burnacoola, with their five-and-drum band marched through the whole parish. The start was made from Cloontumpher crossroads, and the procession proceeded to Johnston's Bridge, thence through Ballygessher, Cloneah, Currycrum, Rooskeynamonia, Keelagh, Gort, and Clonohoney, into Drogheda, where Mr. M. McGarry, publican, invited in the bandmen and treated them. The procession was carried out under the supervision of W. Dooner and M. Canning, secretary and treasurer of the club.

MAYO.

A great demonstration was held in Knock lately, and the people denounced the system under which vast areas of fine land are used for fattening bullocks and sheep, instead of keeping the people in comfort, as God intended the land to do. Mr. Michael Davitt, M. P., Mr. William O'Brien and Father Fallon, the pastor, delivered speeches, in which the callous conduct of the British Government toward the starving people of the West Coast was vigorously denounced.

The Westport magistrates refused information against Sergeant James Sullivan of the police station in Mullranny, for publishing a defamatory libel of Mr. John M. Hale, president of the United Irish League, and for forging Mr. Hale's signature to documents. Evidence against the policeman was strong, but of course, British justice here, as every time, was for the British minion.

The master of the rolls in the Four Courts, Dublin, resumed the hearing of the case of Lynch vs. Clarkin and others. The plaintiff, Mr. Thomas Harvey Lynch of 86 and 87 South Great George's street, Dublin, says he is entitled as tenant in tail male to Ballyourran Castle, house and demesne, Gortaller, Glassbally, Woodpark and other lands in Mayo and Galway comprised in an indenture of settlement of October 20, 1800. The case is still at hearing, and causing great excitement among the members of the families that claim the properties mentioned.

ROSCOMMON.

Mr. John Fleming of Altore, near Ballynagh, was evicted on first instance. The farm is on the estate of Mr. Arthur O'Connor. The Palace, Elphin Mr. Thos. Faragher, Hotel, Ballynanna purchased. At his instance, it is said, the eviction took place.

Miss Flanagan, Drumdoe, daughter of Judge Flanagan, was drowned in Lough Aron, near Boyle, while in a row boat. The body has not been found.

SLIGO.

Ballynacarrow branch of '98 Centenary Organization has among its members J. O'Grady, E. Healy, J. Fane, P. Quigley, M. Fane, J. Clark, J. Gormly, J. Reddon and P. Colliery, who is secretary. They are collecting money to raise memorials to the men who died for Ireland in '98.

Geovagh branch of the Irish National Federation met Sunday. There was a full attendance. The great demonstration which took place at Conway's Cross June 29 was spoken of. There the agrarian struggle is going on between landlord and tenants on the Keogh estate. The Socoy men arrived at an early hour with band and banner, and made the air lively with national music. The Geovagh men soon joined with them and, after parading, a cheer was loud and long as they passed the grubby farm. On

the motion of Mr. Michael McHugh, seconded by Mr. Patrick Fallon, the chair was taken by Mr. J. Mulligan, who called on the people to be united in bringing the struggle to a successful end. He also said it was required to establish a '98 club in the district, and called on all Nationalists to be up and doing, and stand shoulder to shoulder in this memorable year of '98.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

Mrs. McMahon, Colt, died recently, deeply regretted.

The committee of the Carlow-Graigue '98 memorial met in Carlow Town hall last week. Among those present were James Carey, John Brennan, William Bergin, Michael O'Reilly, James Byrne, P. Devine, R. McDonald, P. Byrne, M. Robinson, P. J. Conlan, Thomas O'Gorman, honorary secretary. Business of a routine character was conducted.

DUBLIN.

A house in the occupation of Patrick Sweetman, Drogheda street, Balbriggan, collapsed. Sweetman and his sister Mary were covered by the debris, and were rescued with considerable difficulty.

Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, archbishop of Dublin, is a firm supporter of the claims of the National School teachers in Ireland to the half a million of dollars school grants still unpaid by the British government, and for the same remuneration for like services as is paid to the English and Scotch teachers. In advocacy of these claims the archbishop wrote a letter on the subject to the Freeman's Journal full of cogent and unanswerable arguments in favor of the immediate payment of the arrears to the national teachers of Ireland.

The interment of the remains of Mr. Edward Byrne, 75 Percy place, Dublin, took place in Prospect cemetery, Glasnevin, last week.

KILDARE.

Mr. James Crampton, Offaly street, Athy, died lately, after an illness of two years' duration. He was popular and an ardent supporter of football and cricket. On Sunday afternoon the remains were removed for interment. The funeral was attended by all the inhabitants of the town and district.

KILKENNY.

A shocking discovery was made on July 3 at Paulston, ten miles from Kilkenny, on the borders of the county Carlow, when Ellen Lawlor was found dead in her cabin. Deceased was 75 years of age, was a widow, who lived by herself, her children being all grown up. She carried on a small huxter business, and, being industrious, was reputed to have some money. This is supposed to have been the motive of the murderer, as on investigation no money was found in the house, while there are evidences of the door having been broken in, and a deep wound on deceased's head gives ground for the suspicion that on refusing to surrender her money she was beaten to death. An inquest was held, and a verdict of "wilful murder against some person or persons unknown" was given.

KINGS.

On the feast of St. Peter and Paul the opening of the new organ in St. Michael's church, Portlinton, was made the occasion of a grand religious ceremony.

LONGFORD.

Quarterly meeting of the Young Ireland branch of the Irish National Foresters was held in Forester's hall, Ballymahon street, Longford, a few days since. Chief Ranger Brother Bannon presided. The secretary read his report. The funds to the credit of the branch amount to £105, 18s. 6d. There are twenty-one members of the branch.

The Fairy Queen steamer sailed from Jarmoubarry on Sunday, filled with excursionists for Athlone. The splendid scenery of Lough Ree was much admired.

LOUTH.

On the recommendation of Lord Bellew, the Lord Chancellor has appointed Arthur Westland Archer, of St. Mary's, Drogheda, to the Commission of Peace of Louth county.

Lord Justice Fitzgibbon opened the Assizes in Drogheda last week. The high sheriff, Mr. James P. Kelly, presented the Judge with a pair of white gloves as an indication that not a criminal case was to be tried.

QUEENSA.

Rt. Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Drogheda, lately visited Ro-

senals and administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a great number of children. He delivered a powerful address on the duties of Catholics with regard to the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist and attendance at mass, and concluded by complimenting the children and teachers on the knowledge of the catechism displayed. The Rev. J. E. Delaney, Rev. M. P. Kennedy and the Rev. T. Maloney, Clonsilla, assisted at the Confirmation ceremony.

Telegraph offices have been newly opened in Rosennals and Clonsilla. The guardians in Mountmellek gave a guarantee to pay a portion of the expenses.

WESTMEATH.

The established fair of Mullingar was held last week. The supply and demand was very limited. The demand for well finished cattle was good, and prime heifer and ox beef realized from 64s. to 56s. per cwt.

WEXFORD.

Lawrence Roe, wife and children were recently evicted from the holding on Templemore estate. Mrs. Roe was in the house, but the husband and children had to quit. The bailiffs would not permit her to enter the house to attend his dying wife.

WICKLOW.

The Board of Guardians of Ballynaglass Union is composed of E. P. O. Kelly, president, M. Sills, T. B. Doyle, F. Douglas, W. McLoughlin, J. J. Hayden, James Kelly, G. W. Leonard, M. Harbourne, T. Burgess, L. McDonald, M. Nolan, R. Kelly, J. E. Coleman, P. Byrne, J. Fitzpatrick, N. W. Fenlon, J. Wilson, J. Hayden, P. P. Morris, Col. Dennis, P. Bolland. The board has to credit in the bank \$80,000.

The tenants of the Parnell estate held a meeting in Rathdrum to arrange about purchasing their holdings. Mr. Galvin, Mount Aven, presided.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

Thomas Gardner, laborer, aged 18 years, was drowned lately in the River Fergus while bathing.

Michael Cullinan and Michael Griffin, found guilty of bribery in the Kilsfin Union, were sentenced to one month's imprisonment each, dismissed from the office of poor law guardian and disqualified for seven years from holding any public office.

A challenge bowling match which claimed an extraordinary amount of interest, took place near Cork on Sunday. The contestants were John McGrath of Blackpool and Jeremiah Driscoll of Randon. The match was for \$250 a side, and the score from Ardaraostig mill, a couple of miles outside the city, along the Waterfall road to Crossbarry, adjacent to the Kinsale Junction, a distance of ten miles. At the close of the first day's work the Cork man was ahead. It will take three days' work to finish.

CORK.

Mr. William Fitzgerald, head teacher of the Castletownroche national school, it is stated, committed suicide July 2. He was going for a walk with his brother and he asked the latter for something, who replied he had not it in his possession, but would go to the house for it. When he came back his brother was missing. He made a search and was horrified to find him hanging from a tree by handkerchiefs. The deceased, who was 28 years of age, was noticed not to be too well for some days back.

The battle of the Bees and Jehus.—The Cork Examiner of July 5 had this amusing item: "Yesterday a strange scene was witnessed in the vicinity of the Examiner office in Patrick street, when a swarm of bees suddenly made their appearance on the street. The doubt which was for a moment entertained as to the exact character of the visitors was quickly dispelled when they settled down on the jarveys and their horses stationed on the stand. The lashing of whips and the restlessness of the horses made it soon clear that the unexpected and unwelcome visitors were none other than bees. The drivers endeavored to fight the newcomers, but the battle was an uneven one, and the Jehu forces were compelled to retire over the side streets, leaving the main thoroughfare in possession of the bee legions. One driver of a cover oak stuck to his guns, or rather to his seat, firmly for some minutes after his comrades had decamped, but the queen bee now concentrated her troops on the sole and brave defender and eventually forced him to go the way of his companions and seek refuge. This interested little battle was witnessed by a fairly large crowd who watched its development with amuse-

ment. But the jarveys were not alone the sufferers, for drivers of vehicles of all kinds were subjected to similar attacks, and only succeeded in running the blockade after no little inconvenience and discomfort. For fully half an hour the bees held undisputed possession, and it was clear that such warfare could not with advantage be prolonged. At 2 o'clock a messenger of peace in the person of Mr. William Kelleher, Great George's street, arrived on the scene. With him he brought a hive, a small boy and a gong, and with these slender resources he endeavored to induce the victorious battalion to return to camp. Eventually he succeeded, the bees returned to their quarters, and so did the jarveys.

The interment of Rev. Brother Li-guori McNamara of the Presentation Order, who died July 6, took place in the cemetery of the Monastery, Douglas street, Cork. Requiem high mass was sung in the Monastery chapel. Celebrant, Very Rev. Canon James Fleming, St. Finbar's West, assisted by Rev. Fathers J. F. Hanway, O. S. F., and M. O'Sullivan, SS. Peter and Paul's church, Cork, deacon and sub-deacon, the Rev. J. J. Minter, St. Finbar's West, master of ceremonies.

KERRY.

Michael Connell, aged 34 years, was last week charged with having killed his father, Thomas Connell, aged 67, at Glenderry, near Ballyheigal, on June 21. He was returned for trial at next assizes.

The station house on the Dingle and Tralee railway, in Tralee, was lately burned down.

A special Petty sessions court was held at Killorglin Wednesday to take depositions in the case of Jeremiah Costelloe and Patrick Galvin, arrested in connection with the moonlighting raid made on the night of June 21, on an evicted farm at Garahadod. Much interest was centered in the case. The accused were remanded for more information to be obtained by the police.

A fatality of a shocking character occurred in the steam mill of Messrs. James Donovan & Sons, the Square, Tralee, a few days ago. Mrs. O'Leary who has been but two months married, was in the engine room, having brought lunch to her husband, an engineer, when her garments became entangled in the machinery, and she was dragged in. Before the engine could be stopped she was so fearfully mangled that she died shortly after. Happily, however, she survived until she had received the last rites of the Church.

The election of a medical officer for the Enniscorthy Dispensary district in the Cahirciveen Union took place at Kinneigh Dispensary. The vacancy was caused by the retirement of Dr. John Healy, who had been for 25 years medical officer of the district. Mr. John O'Sullivan presided. Dr. Patrick Coffey was the only candidate for the position. Mr. Butler proposed, and Mr. Thaddeus O'Driscoll, seconded, that Dr. Coffey be appointed, and it was adopted.

LIMERICK.

Much distress prevails amongst the poorer farming and laboring classes at Killaloe and surroundings, on account of the complete absence of employment in the neighborhood.

The grocers of Limerick have formed an association for the protection of their interests.

A hurling match was lately played between Murroe and Drumkeen teams in a field on the bank of Mulcar river, Brittas. When full time was called the score stood: Murroe, 1 goal, 3 points; Drumkeen, 2 points. Mr. Cooke, Murroe, and Mr. O'Donohue Drumkeen, refereed.

TIPPERARY.

Among the deaths in the county recently reported were: Mrs. Keating Springmount, Marfield, Clonmel; William Tobin, Orohane, Drangan; M. Donovan, Clogheen.

The Sydney Freeman's Journal of April 30 contained an account of the jubilee of the Rev. Dr. Lanigan, bishop of Goulburn, New South Wales, who is a native of the archdiocese of Cashel, and commenced his studies at Thurles college. He has had the happiness of seeing his Cathedral of St. Mary's commenced, completed and consecrated within 20 years.

WATERFORD.

The old-time and well-known sales-rooms of Thomas Walsh & Son the Mail, Waterford, were lately destroyed by fire.

Mrs. Prosser, Tramore, died lately. She was wife of Mr. Thomas Boyce Prosser, who was for many years one of the leading corn merchants in the city of Waterford. Her son is secretary of the Waterford & Tramore railway company.

Dr. Tobin, brother of Messrs. Tobin, the Quay, Waterford, and of Surgeon Tobin, Dublin, died unexpectedly. He was connected professionally with local public institutions, where his ability as well as courtesy won him golden opinions. Death was due to heart disease.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

Samuel Neilson, '98 Club, Belfast, held a meeting last week in 67 Mill street for the election of officers, when the following were elected: President, Mr. James McLaughlin, Armagh; vice-presidents, Messrs. James Teer, James Brady; secretary, J. Kelly; assistant secretary, P. Maher; treasurer, P. Branigan; trustees, J. Brady, A. J. Teer, D. McAllister; committee, Mess. D. Sealy, Joseph McAuley, F. McGuinness, P. Tyrrell, T. O'Hare, James Donoghue.

The crop prospects in the districts of Antrim are reported by the Farmers Gazette thus. Wheat good, but little sown. Barley not sown. Oats, a very uneven crop. Flax good, but little sown. Potatoes, uneven. Mangels, a good braird. Turnips, bad, half of ground not sown. Meadows looking well. Pasture good. The crops in general do not look well, owing to the excessive wet; but there are some fields of potatoes and oats where the land is dry and in good condition. From all appearance the turnip and potato crops will fall far short.

The priests of Ballymena district of the diocese of Down and Connor met last week in conference at Ballymena under the presidency of Most Rev. Dr. Henry.

ARMAGH.

The nuns in the convent of the Sacred Heart, Armagh, have now a class for Irish.

The Farmers' Gazette's recent issue made this report on the crop prospects around Armagh: Wheat not much grown, not looking well. Barley none. Oats fair average. Flax little sown; fairly healthy generally, but late. Potatoes, good appearance on warm dry land, not good on cold soils. Mangels fair. Turnips mostly late, looking healthy. Meadows—Upland light, permanent meadows much improved. The crops are late generally, owing to the cold wet weather in April and May. During the present month there has been great improvement.

Members of the Henry Monroe '98 Club, Collegeland, held a fine meeting July 3, Mr. Bernard O'Neill, county delegate, in the chair. It was unanimously agreed to co-operate with the Lord Edward '98 Club of Armagh to hold a monster demonstration first Sunday in September at the historic Yellow Ford, two and a half miles northwest of Armagh, and within one mile of Blackwatertown. As the support of a great number of bands and clubs from the counties of Armagh, Monaghan and Tyrone has been promised, it will be one of the largest demonstrations held in Ulster for many years. Mr. Thomas Donnelly, Glasgow, addressed the meeting. The proceedings terminated by all singing "God Save Ireland."

CAVAN.

The trial of Philip King for the killing of his wife, two children and mother-in-law will come off in Louth. The terrible occurrence happened near Shereveek, January last. Judge Madden, addressing the grand jury at the Assizes in Bavan a few days since, said: "I am happy to say that the returns laid before me in the ordinary course, and the information I derived from those who are responsible for the peace of the county, leave me to conclude that it is now in an orderly and law-abiding condition, in which it has been for years past."

A meeting of farmers was held in Belturbet, lately. Mr. McKillop, the secretary of the association, addressed them from the courthouse steps. A great many of the leading farmers were in Clones Fair on June 29 and the secretary addressed a very large meeting in Kilmaleck, where a branch has been started. A meeting of farmers and others was held in Ballyconnell, county Cavan, July 1. Though the market was small there was a good attendance, and the proceedings were most hearty and lively throughout. Mr. Curry was appointed chairman and he advocated combination by the farmers to meet the landlords, who had combined to keep them down. Mr. Killop addressed the meeting and a branch was started.

DERRY.

The Flax Supply association of Belfast, reports that the acreage under flax in Ireland this season is considerably less than it was last year. The flax growing industry in the north has

entered a critical stage, and all interested thereon are fully alive to its seriousness. In the district comprising a radius of six miles at Dungiven, there are not twenty acres under that crop this year.

DONEGAL.

A meeting of Ballyshannon '98 club was held on Sunday. The attendance was good. Mr. F. J. McFadden presided and delivered a short address on the life and adventures of Mr. Michael Dwyer, the Wicklow insurgent chief.

Drinnahugh House, near Letterkenny, residence of Mr. McFadden, J. P., was destroyed by fire July 7. Mr. McFadden's niece, Miss McGehan, 18, fell from the roof and was killed, and Miss Brennan, who also fell from the roof, was seriously injured.

DOWN.

On Sunday a deputation from the parishioners of Aghaderg proceeded to Warrenpoint to present Rev. H. McEvoy with an address and a purse of sovereigns. After the presentation was made he invited them to the Imperial hotel to dinner. After dinner Father McEvoy procured a steam launch and took the deputation around the charming bay.

Never in the history of this county has there been committed a more dastardly act of vandalism than that which has just come to light in Listooder, three miles from Ballinshinch. In Listooder is a very ancient burial ground, Killergerton, which has long been unused, but held in great veneration by the people, Catholic and Protestant alike. On Saturday many persons kept up a continuous fusillade of revolver ring until the small hours. The inhabitants were in great terror, and are loud in their protestations against such ruffianly conduct committed under the eyes of the officers of the law. On Sunday a number of individuals proceeded from Ballynashinch to the cemetery, and completely demolished an old stone cross which marked the resting place of a Catholic priest, supposed to have died in the sixteenth century. Not content with destroying the stone, the ruffians had even the audacity to tear up the surface of the grave and place a Union Jack there.

July 10 the remains of Sister Mary Berchmans of the convent of Mercy, Newry, were interred in the cemetery attached to the convent, Catherine street. Deceased was only 22 years of age. Solemn requiem mass was celebrated, Most Rev. Dr. McGivern presiding; celebrant Rev. Felix McGuinness, deacon, Rev. John Rooney, sub-deacon, Rev. John O'Hare, master of ceremonies, the Rev. J. Carlin, administrator.

FERRANAGH.

The Farmers' Gazette of late date made this report on the prospects of the crops around the districts of Enniskillen: wheat, October, looking well. Barley, none. Oats look bad and thin, except on very good manured soil. Flax a failure. Potatoes looking well. Mangels—Early doing well. Turnips—Late good. Tee fly made a great raid on early sown in this district. Meadows will be good. Pasture improved since rain in June. On the whole, the prospects of a very good season are not bright.

MONAGHAN.

The report on the prospects of the crops in the district around Monaghan, made by the Farmers' Gazette in late issue, was: wheat, none. Barley, none. Oats, very good. Flax, little sown; generally a failure. Potatoes, very good. Turnips looking well. Meadows—Forced grass a light crop, but a good appearance of seed. Pasture fair. On the whole, the crops (flax excepted), promise average.

TYRONE.

The Farmers' Gazette's recent issue, gave this report as to the prospects of the crops in and around the districts mentioned: Coolstown—wheat, little sown, Barley, none. Oats looking well on dry land; on low lying ground stunted by excessive rains. Flax, not half of last year; backward. Potatoes looking well. Mangels look fairly well. Turnips—Brairds, good looking but late. Meadows—Upland fair average; meadows, over average. Pasture doing well. Cattle healthy. All crops have a promising appearance except in damp land, owing to too much rain during last two months. Dry, warm weather very much wanted. Dungannon—Wheat, none. Barley, none. Oats, average. Mangels scarce. Turnips looking well. Meadows, large crop. Pasture not good. Warm, dry weather much wanted. On the whole, I think crops in general look as well as last year, except turnips. Potatoes look better.