

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.

Martin Fitzpatrick fell from a height of 23 feet in the Carmelite chapel, Loughrea, July 14, and was fatally injured.

John J. O'Sullivan, proprietor of the American Hotel, Eyre square, Galway, died July 8, deeply regretted.

Miss Burke, Kilcommodan, has become a member of the order of Mercy, in the convent of Downpatrick. Her religious title is Sister Magdalene Joseph.

A man named Flaherty, Ballinaboy, was shooting at a bird one day last week and seriously wounded a man named Burke. Flaherty is a "bird." It was an accident pure and simple.

Very Rev. Father Heenan, president of St. Michael's seminary, Ballinalee, has been appointed parish priest of Taughmoanell in room of Father Burns deceased. Father Madden, C. C., Taughmoanell, has been transferred to Woodford, and Father Flynn to Ballinalee from Woodford. The parishioners of Ballinalee are going to present Father Heenan with a testimonial.

Mr. Michael Lynch, Bolane Mills, died July 10, at the age of 70 years. The funeral to Killanion was numerous attended.

LEITRIM.

Father Naugle, C. C., Aughas, has been changed to Carrick-on-Shannon, to the great regret of the parishioners, among whom he had spent fifteen years of his sacred ministry.

William Peyton Graham, a deaf mute, well known in and around Dromahaire, was found dying on the public road near his home lately. His skull was fractured. The cause of his death is a mystery.

MAYO.

John Conway, jr., employed in the postoffice, Westport, was found dead on the Castlebar road, near Westport, July 9, lying alongside his bicycle.

Father O'Reilly, a native of Louisville, for many years on the mission in Australia, has been appointed by the Archbishop of Tuam to be C. C., Achill, in room of the late lamented Father Fitzgerald.

ROSCOMMON.

A young man named Harris, from Strokestown, performed a wonderful diving feat at Drumsna a few days ago by jumping into the Shannon from the bridge.

Mr. John Donlon, ex-national teacher of Elphin street, Strokestown, died July 30, aged 78 years, deeply and widely regretted. Deceased had been for years teaching in Strokestown and Tarmontbarry, from which latter school he retired. He was "a man of letters" in the truest sense of the term, and was highly respected by all who knew him. Several of his pupils are shining lights in the Catholic Church, of which he was a devout member.

Miss Sharkey, French Park, died June 28, at the age of 78 years. During thirty years she taught the French Park F. N. school with ability and success, obtaining from the commissioners of national education many recognitions of her zeal and efficiency, including the Carfise and Blake premium and good service salary. The remains were removed to the parish church, French Park, on Wednesday, where solemn requiem mass was chanted, the Very Rev. J. Neary, celebrant.

SLIGO.

The members of the Soocy branch of the Irish National Federation held a meeting on Tuesday. Mr. Patrick Clerkin, president, occupied the chair.

This letter appeared in a recent issue of the Sligo Champion: An Irish-American on Unity. To the editor. Dear Sir-Please allow me space in your valuable journal to state to every true Irishman, now is the time to unite to a man, and in all cases let the majority rule, uphold the true Democratic policy. Let the true sons of Erin cheer up for freedom is at hand. Ireland can never prosper as long as Great Britain has control of it. Ireland has lost one of her greatest friends, that is-Hon. W. E. Gladstone. May he rest in peace. "United we stand and divided we fall." It is a grievous thing for us Irish-Americans to read of Ireland being in so deplorable condition. Respectfully yours, Dominick J. Harie, 88 Mercer street, Boston, Mass.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

Mr. Patrick Byrne, Hacketstown, died June 26, at the fine old age of 88 years. The funeral from Drumquin was numerous attended.

DUBLIN.

Hon. Daniel Tallon, Lord Mayor of Dublin, July 20 visited the distressed districts of Cahirciveen, which include Rhodes and Crosmana and the shore line coasted. The Lord Mayor and his party coasted along in boats. He was pleased at the way the money had been expended. O'Connell Memorial church was visited. Rev. Canon Brosnan is making herculean efforts to finish the church.

Christopher J. Keogh, 10 Lower Ormond quay, Dublin, was drowned while bathing at Gormanstown strand last week.

Mr. Auld All, professor of Arabic and Hindustani in Dublin university, was found dead in bed on Thursday morning at his house, 129 Leinster road.

The death of Mr. Angus Mackay occurred lately. For several years he was a member of the reporting staff of the Irish Times. The day before the event he was engaged in his professional work, and seemed in good health and spirits. He had just returned from a holiday tour in Scotland, apparently benefited.

Not since the days of Father Mathew did Dublin witness such a remarkable temperance demonstration as that of Friday evening, when thousands of all classes, creeds and politics, assembled at the Custom House for the purpose of honoring the Rev. Father Hayes, who has labored in the cause of temperance. He has successfully carried on the work of Father Mathew, and on several occasions lectured in all the cities and towns of Ireland. Father Hayes will be stationed in Liverpool.

The foundation stone of the monument to the Brothers Sheares was laid on the site of Newgate prison, Dublin, on July 17, amid great enthusiasm. Charles G. Dolan, Queenstown, Cork, performed the historic act and made a most patriotic speech. In the evening to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the trial and execution of the brothers, a great demonstration was held in the Phoenix park. A contingent from Scotland was two thousand strong. All the societies and organizations in the city and many from points near the city and more remote, were present to attest their devotion to the cause for which the noble Brothers Sheares had worked, suffered and died.

KILDARE.

A very large and enthusiastic demonstration in honor of the 98 centenary was held on the hill of Ovidstown on Sunday. To all acquainted with the stirring incidents in the 98 struggle, which took place in that neighborhood, it will be evident that a more fitting and a more significant meeting ground could scarcely have been selected. Ovidstown, although situated in a rather inaccessible portion of Kildare, was therefore thronged, and the thousands who assembled there from Edenderry, Killock, Straffan, Leixlip and other places in which the centenary movement has been cordially taken up, showed by their enthusiasm that they appreciated in the most heartfelt manner, the unselfish patriotism of the martyrs of the insurrection.

KILKENNY.

Mr. W. R. Carlin, jr., who had been manager of the Kilkenny Gas Works for some years, and for some reason had not held that position lately, died a few days ago.

The Bridgeline Nuns in Goresbridge convent lately gave their annual entertainment-musical and dramatical. It was of the most entertaining and elevating character.

KINGS.

Mr. Daniel F. Williams, Tullamore, now uses a motor car for transferring his goods to Birr, and in the way of general delivery over the country.

The funeral of Sister Mary Catherine, Sacred Heart convent, Banagher, took place July 15. The deceased, who was a sister of the Rev. Father Connolly, Galway, passed away quietly after a painful illness of some months' duration. She had been engaged in the Banagher convent schools during eighteen years. The funeral cortege was very long. The children of the various schools carrying wreaths, marched in procession order after the coffin, which was borne from the convent to the burial ground at St. Bernyng's chapel, the priests chanting the burial service. After the office for the dead, high mass was celebrated.

LONGFORD.

The death of Mr. David Burns merchant, Main street, Longford, occurred July 9, after a short term of illness. He was aged 35. Interment was in Edgeworthstown; funeral cortege long.

A tramp painter named Robert Magee, during the absence of Canon O'Farrell, parish priest of Ballinalee, went into the parochial house and intimidated the servant that he had engaged to do the papering and he desired to look at the rooms. The request was acceded to, and Magee went to reconnoitre. He gave the servant instructions to procure paste. Going through the house the tradesman discovered a church collection box, containing Peter's pence. The temptation was too strong for Magee's weak nature, and he helped himself. A further search revealed liquors, and the painter's store was lightened, for in addition to regaling himself with wine and whiskies, Magee carried off a quantity. With the Peter's pence and the liquor he made his way out of the house, and to crown the impudence, he met the priest's man, who had the horse harnessed to a car with the intention of going to meet Canon O'Farrell at the railway station. Magee said he wanted to see the priest, and got on the car, on which he was driven to the station. However, his disappearance was soon noticed, and Canon O'Farrell, on reaching his house, discovered that the property of himself and the church had disappeared with the painter. Magee was arrested in Mullingar.

On Sunday, July 11, the members of St. Vincent de Paul society, Longford, accompanied by friends and guests, left by brake and embarked at Tarmontbarry on board the Shannon steamer, Countess of Mayo, and proceeded to Athlone.

LOUTH.

The funeral of Mr. Patrick Reilly, ex high sheriff of Drogheda, took place July 17. The attendance was large and representative, including the mayor, Mr. F. Gogarty, the chairman of the Poor Law board, Mr. Thomas Malone, the clergy of the district, members of the Harbor and Poor Law boards, aldermen and town councillors. The interment took place at Mornington.

Mr. McDonagh, a dairy farmer Tullyallen, was proceeding through a field where his cattle were grazing, when he was attacked by a bull. The beast knocked him to the ground, butting him and goring him. The animal tossed the unfortunate man high into the air, and crushed him with the weight of its body. His cries were heard by persons passing, who drove away the savage beast. The man was then dead.

MEATH.

Miss Margaret Everard Nawan died July 10, deeply, widely and deservedly regretted. She belonged to one of the oldest and most respectable families of Navan and was a pious and exemplary Catholic.

A valuable fattening farm of 55 statute acres, the lands of Knockamber and Calmlins, the property of Mr. Lightholder, was on Wednesday offered for sale at the Courthouse, Navan, by Messrs P. Smith & Son, auctioneers. After some brisk bidding it was knocked down to Dr. Laurence Finnegan of Navan for £2,200.

QUEENS.

Died-On June 28, at Watercastle, Christopher Lowry, aged 85 years. Interment took place in the family burial place, Clonking.

WEXFORD.

St. Rev. Dr. Browne, bishop of Ferns, July 10 visited Newtownbarry union. During his stay he visited St. Mary's church and Barnahask school.

WICKLOW.

The Dowager Countess of Meath died July 16 at the residence of her son, the twelfth Earl of Meath, Killyruddy castle, Bray. The deceased countess who was a daughter of the late Sir Richard A. Brooke, Bart., survived her husband, the eleventh earl, over 11 years.

On Sunday a deputation from the Wicklowmen's 98 association, Dublin, consisting of H. McCarthy, J. Mooney and J. Clarke visited Wicklow for the purpose of ascertaining the exact whereabouts of the grave of the patron of their branch, Billy Byrne of Ballymanus, a leader of distinction, executed in Wicklow in 1799 for participating in the insurrection of 1798. The deputation was met on arrival by the officers of the local 98 committee, and proceeded to the cemetery on the Church bank, where an elderly gentleman, who proved to be a veritable encyclopaedia on local historical facts and places, pointed out the grave.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

Under the auspices of the United Irish league, a Nationalist demonstration was held in Doonbeg lately. Land grabbers were unsparingly whipped from a verbal point of view. Mr. Michael Mescall, chairman of Kilrush board of guardians, presided. Every parish in West Clare was represented. Some bands were also present. The chairman called on the people to stand together as they did in the days of the Land League, and very soon landgrabbing would be exterminated root and branch. Mr. Michael J. Carmody, Kilrush, asked those who attended the grand demonstration to stick together as one man and victory would crown their efforts in the case of the tenant farmers. Mr. Matthew Kelly, Cree, president of the United Irish League, and Mr. Anthony O'Dwyer, also addressed the meeting. Resolutions condemning the landgrabbing were passed.

CORK.

Mr. Timothy Hourihan, aged 27 years, died lately at Betsboro, Skibbereen. He had only returned from the United States a short time ago, in broken health. At one time he was teacher in the Abbey school with Mr. Harrington.

Most favorable reports about the crops in the district around Bantry are made so far.

Reports about the crops in Fermoy district say that they are the most prosperous looking in many years.

Michael Roche, Glenheigh, aged 20 years, was drowned off a point of land at Reenagalawn shore last week.

Thomas White of Cork, employed on the tugboat Bulldog, was drowned in a collision in Lough Mahon, July 12. His body was recovered. The body of another victim has not been found.

The Dowager Countess of Bantry died lately. Her son, Richard, who died some years ago, was the fourth and last Earl of Bantry, having no issue, the title died with him. The title was conferred on the White family for services rendered the British crown when the French landed at Bantry. Deceased was a daughter of Mr. Herbert of Muckross, Killarney. Interment was in the family vault in the local church. The Countess was a good woman and very good to the poor.

Most Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, bishop of Cork, has made these changes in the diocese of Cork: Rev. John Lyons, P. P., Kilmichael, to be P. P. Monkstown in the place of the Very Rev. Canon McNamara, deceased. Rev. Jeremiah O'Keefe, C. C., St. Finbarr's, to be P. P., Kilmichael. Rev. Thomas Barrett, C. C., Kinsale, to be C. C., St. Finbarr's. Rev. James O'Leary, C. C., Enniskeane, to be C. C., Kinsale. Rev. Timothy Murphy, chaplain, Bantry convent, to be C. C., Enniskeane. Rev. Edmund Crowley, recently ordained, to be chaplain Bantry convent. Rev. John Crowley, C. C., Kilmichael, to be C. C., Kiltirritan. Rev. P. O'Connell, C. C., Kiltirritan, to be C. C., Kilmichael.

The Rev. Timothy J. Hurley, son of Mr. Thomas Hurley, Ballintoy, Killeagh, and nephew of late Very Rev. David McKinley, S. J., was ordained by the Most Rev. P. A. Feehan June 18. Father Hurley commenced his education in Mount Mellary, county Waterford, where he distinguished himself by his diligent application, deep piety and gentleness of disposition. His Mellary education being complete, he read a most distinguished philosophical and theological course in some of the most famous seminaries of America. The solemn ceremony was witnessed by his many friends.

KERRY.

Hon. Daniel Tallon, Lord Mayor of Dublin, on July 20, visited the distressed districts around Cahirciveen. His party went along the coast from Rhodes to Crosmana in boats, and visited the famous National O'Connell Memorial church, which Rev. Canon Brosnan is working so patriotically to finish.

St. Rev. Dr. Coffey, bishop of Kerry, has made many improvements in the Cathedral, Killarney. A new small spire has just been added to it, on the eastern angle. The erection of the central tower is the heaviest and most costly undertaking to be faced. He is carrying out some considerable improvements in the interior of the sacred edifice. The organ gallery is being remodeled, and the improvements will lengthen the interior by 20 feet.

TIPPERARY.

Sunday, July 10, the first annual excursion in connection with the Sac-

red Heart association, Ballyporeen took place at Youghal. The journey across Knockmealdown was much appreciated, and the Irish man or woman who would not admire the broad smiling plain of sweet Tipperary, stretching on to Cahir and eastward to Slievenamon, on that beautiful July morning, should be very indifferent about the scenic beauty of Erin. After a few hours' drive that unrivaled monastic edifice of Mount Mellary was seen towering above the beautiful groves that surround it, tactfully informing the traveler of the noble Cistercian community, who have transformed the barren mountain slopes into beautiful parks. At half-past ten the excursionists were comfortably seated on board the Ness Queen, beginning the trip along the Irish Rhine. Youghal was reached at 12 o'clock, after which the excursionists divided themselves into groups, possessed undoubtedly of different ideas as to the best means of enjoying themselves for the next seven hours in the historic old town. The patriotic ardor of some led them to the old Clock Tower and similar places that played important parts in Irish history a hundred years ago. Others wended their way to Sir Walter Raleigh's house, St. Mary's church and the Cromwellian quarter of the town, while the majority betook themselves to the charming strand to inhale the ozone of the Atlantic and the inevitable "dip" in the "briny." Thus were spent seven hours, sorry when the time expired. The steamer started on the return journey at 7 p. m., reaching Cappoquin at 9, where brakes were in readiness to take the visitors back to the little village in the corner of Tipperary renowned in "immortal verse" for its famous wedding. The success of the excursion was due to the exertions of the spiritual director, who, since the inception of the society, has evinced a very keen interest in all matters connected with it.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

Henry Joy McCracken branch of the Irish National Foresters held its quarterly meeting a few days ago in Hall, 67 Mill street, Belfast. Brother McNamara, C. R., presiding, assisted by Brother McClaverty, S. C. R., and all other officers. There was a large attendance. Seven new members were proposed for admission.

ARMAUGH.

St. Rev. Dr. McGivern, bishop of Dromore, has appointed Rev. George McCurry, C. C., Annalong, to the vacant curacy in Lurgan, unfilled since August last, when Rev. M. B. McDonville was appointed to succeed the late Very Rev. James O'Hare, P. P., V. F. Father McCurry will be replaced in Annalong by Rev. John Lupton of Newry, who was raised to the priesthood at the recent ordinations in Maynooth.

DRERRY.

The flax crop of this season in the district of Coleraine is but one-fourth of the usual.

The procession of the Blessed Sacrament in St. Treas's church, Newbridge, lately, was most edifying. The weather was favorable and serene. No wonder from 'over hills and dales and fields' to Church Ard-tree North poured forth to a man its population, with contingents from Magherafelt, Castledawson, Bellaghy and Toome.

DONEGAL.

Sunday, July 10, St. Patrick's Total Abstinence society, Letterkenny, had its annual excursion to Bundoran, under direction of Father Stephens. It was an enjoyable day.

During the recent celebration of the battle of Boyne by the Orangemen a contingent from Raphoe, returning from Donegal, got off the train at Stranorlar, and, of course, created disturbance. The police made a baton charge on the peaceable inhabitants, drove them into the Catholic church, where they pounded them until the sacred edifice was as bloody as a shambles.

At an examination in the college of music, London, five of the pupils of St. Louis convent, Bundoran, scored a percentage ranging from 92 to 97. The names of the talented ladies are Mary A. Warde, Ellen Daly, Mary Maguire, Maggie Maguire, Florence McVitty, Emily McVitty, Selina McVitty and Eva White.

DOWN.

Mr. Alexander McKay, farmer, Conliff, has been elected Poor Law Guardian for the district of Bangor, in the Newtownlands Union. He succeeds Mr. James McOullagh, resigned. The other candidate was Mr. Henry Jackson, Bryansburn house, Bangor.

Francis Hunter, aged 85 years, was

drowned in the Newry canal last week. Deceased was employed on the lighter Peter Duffy. The drowning happened near the Ballybot bridge, Newry.

In the convent of Mercy, Downpatrick, July 6, were received Miss Whelan of Kilmacthomas, Waterford, and Miss Burke, Kilcommodan, Galway; Sisters M. Gertrude Joseph and Mary Magdalene Joseph, respectively.

MONAGHAN.

As regards the very meagre facilities for bonding goods in the county, the following occurred in the British House of Commons last week: In reply to Mr. McAleese Mr. Hanbury said: "There are three bonded stores in county Armagh, eleven in county Louth, six in county Tyrone and none in county Monaghan. For some years past it has been the policy of the government to refrain from extending the number of small warehouses, and to concentrate bonding business in large centres of trade and population. A bonded store could not be established in county Monaghan without departing from that policy, and there is less reason for such a departure, as the people requiring bonding facilities in county Monaghan are very few, and they already have warehouses within reasonable distance."

A JESUIT ASTRONOMER.

An Interesting Account of Father Braun's Scientific Labors.

Not a little interesting is the testimony borne in the June number of *Himmel und Erde*, the organ of the Urania Society of Berlin, to the scientific achievements of a Jesuit astronomer, Father Braun, Herr Ginzler, of the Royal Astronomical Calculation Institute of Berlin, writes:

"Among the most ingenious attempts of recent times to determine the density of the earth and its gravitational constants, must be reckoned the labor of the Jesuit Father, Dr. C. Braun, the former able director of the Archdiocesan Observatory at Kalocsa in Hungary. The preliminary studies of this apparatus—for a very complicated apparatus was necessary—were begun by Father Braun as far back as 1886. He was not, however, in the favorable position of other physicists, who have at their disposal large pecuniary resources from the government and physical laboratories. He was obliged to make pecuniary sacrifices himself, and construct a considerable part of the complicated instrument with his own hand. Under these difficult circumstances Father Braun was not able to begin observations till 1892. In 1894 they were completed and submitted to calculations. The reduction has been carried on with minutest accuracy and with due regard to possible sources of error in the apparatus. The final result, after all calculations for correction, gives the mean density of the earth as 5.52725, and consequently its weight as five quadrillions, 987,047 trillions of kilograms; thus approaching very near to the results of de Bays, which have already been looked upon as the best."

"When it is remembered that Father Braun is already advanced in years and that his health leaves much to be desired, we shall commend assent when we say that his labors afford a rare proof of scientific energy and ideal self sacrifice on the part of a remarkable man."

The Trappists in the Klondyke.

The Very Rev. J. Rene, S. J., Prefect Apostolic in Alaska, after a day's stay at St. Mary's college, Montreal, left for Dawson City. Father Rene is on his way home from Rome, where he went to visit the head of the Jesuit order, and to obtain special permission from the Pope relative to their mission in Klondyke. When seen by a reporter for one of the Montreal papers, Father Rene said that the object of his visit to the Holy Father was to obtain permission to bring the Trappist monks into the Klondyke. "They are the best known land-workers in the world and I know from experience," said he, "certain parts of Alaska are quite suitable for cultivation. Of course it is only an experiment, but should the land which they will till prove fertile enough for the cultivation of various cereals and vegetables, we will be able to sell them to the gold seekers. No one has attempted to cultivate the soil there, but I have made a practical test at Dawson City and other places, and in some cases the result was satisfactory. We are not introducing the Trappists into Alaska for their benefit alone, but for the benefit, both religious and temporal, of those who go there for gold. Some of the Oka Trappists will be taken for the mission. There are now fifteen Jesuits in Klondyke, but the work is too much for such a small number. The Jesuits have a small college at Dawson City, attended by 75 pupils."