

OUR IRISH LETTER

NEWS FROM ALL THE COUNTIES OF IRELAND.

Donegal - Various items from every section of the Emerald Isle.

CONNAUGHT.

GALWAY.

In accordance with the desire of the late Mrs. Jerome, her remains were brought from Havana and reached Albany on Thursday, Dec. 23. The coffin, surrounded by a large violet cross and bordered by a deep fringe of the same color, was placed in a glass funeral carriage, drawn by four horses, and after a short service in Monivea Church was conveyed for interment to the burial ground at Abbert, the residence of her father, John Blakeney. The service was read by the Very Reverend the Provost of Tuam. Mr. Jerome was unable to accompany his wife's remains to England, being detained in Cuba on Consular duty.

The cross has been placed on the spire of the Clifden Catholic Church, and the work commenced by the late Rev. Dean McManus, twenty-five years ago, is all but completed. The tenants on the East Galway estates of the Right Honorable the Earl of Westmeath have perfected their arrangements with their landlord for the renewal of the statutory leases. The property extends to 14,000 acres, and the tenants are very numerous but fairly comfortable.

Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Bishop of Clonfert, lately made these changes: Rev. John Coghlan, administrator, Ballymacward, to be parish priest, Taughmacconnell; Rev. John Fallon C. C., Eyrecourt, to be administrator, Ballymacward, and the Rev. John Heenan, the Seminary Ballynasloe, to Eyrecourt.

There are seventy evicted families from the Clancarty Mountain property and twenty-two from the adjoining Lewis estate living in Woodford, and there are as many more living in the Portunna and Killmore districts. With these conditions, no wonder the branches of the United Irish League are active and numerous.

LEITRIM.

The members of the Killenuremy branch of the Irish National Federation, at a recent meeting, agreed to support Mr. Thomas Fallon for the office of County Councillor, under the new act. Mr. Fallon had been the Poor Law Guardian for fourteen years. The new Christian Brothers' school in Carrick-on-Shannon, in less than a month, it is expected, will be declared open. The Rev. Canon Olligan has worked zealously for this purpose. A representative of the Manohamilton and Cloonmoyner divisions of the Manohamilton Union was held in St. Clare's Catholic Hall, Manohamilton, Jan. 4, to select representatives.

MAYO.

On the ordinary voters' list for Westport Township there are 648 names, and the Local Government Supplement contains the names of 142 women and one peer, in all 791.

John Glynn, Ballinrobe, accidentally fell off the Tow Bridge into the River Robe lately, and would have been drowned but for the exertions of two policemen.

Died—On Christmas Eve, '98, at 39 Blessington street, Dublin, Michael Stephen O'Reilly, of Knox street, Ballina, aged 21 years.—Dec. 25, 1898, at 76 Queen street, Dublin, Mary Melvin, late Moy Hotel, Ballina, in her 70th year.—Dec. 29, 1898, at Ballinrobe, Henry Nesbitt, aged 61 years.

To repair the damage done by the recent storm to the new church in Castlebar, a public meeting was held in the town Dec. 30, when a large amount of money was subscribed and numerous promises of financial support were received. Most Rev. Dr. McPhillip, Archbishop of Tuam, gave £50. This makes a total of £550 given by the Archbishop.

ROSCOMMON.

Mr. P. A. McHugh, M. P., has been forwarded by Mr. Odbert, the clerk of the Boyle Union, the following: "Proposed by M. E. N. Mulhalla, seconded by Mr. James Lindsay: Resolved, 'The Guardians of this Union, representing all classes and creeds, call on Her Majesty's Government to grant a sum of money for a Catholic University in Ireland. This just demand cannot be refused, as we only ask for what has been granted to Catholics ruled by the British Crown in the Dominion of Canada for a considerable time, and has proved a great success.' Passed unanimously."

Died—Dec. 18, 1898, at Ellesmere, Clontarf, Dublin, Isabella Allen, daughter of the late John Fraser, Ballyfarnon. Funeral for Broadstone, then arriving for Boyle. Interment at Kiltinan, via Ballyfarnon.

The Strokestown juvenile life and drum band turned out, accompanied by a torch-light procession, and paraded the principal streets in Strokestown in honor of the departure of the centenary of the memorable year of 1798. They also exhibited a splendid banner of Wolf Tone.

A branch of the United Irish League has been established in Scrabooge. Michael McNamara, president; Owen Brennan, vice-president; Peter Thompson, treasurer; Patrick Feeney and James Oates, secretaries; John Dooley, W. Thompson, M. J. Butler, T. Cox, W. Gilmore, W. Wallace, D. Carlos, M. Cunningham, James Barry, committee.

On Jan. 1 a meeting of the people of Kiltullagh and surrounding districts was held to consider what action should be taken as to the eviction of the tenants of the estate of the late Mr. O'Connell, at Kiltullagh.

In the hands of that family for generations. Mr. Arthur O'Connor, the Palace, Elphin, is the landlord, but the eviction was carried out at the instance of Mr. Thomas Farragher, of the County Mayo. A long letter from Mr. O'Connor, the landlord, to Mr. Farragher, Ballyhaunis, and a copy of which was sent to Mr. Fleming, was read, in which it was mentioned that if he, as a landlord, did half as much in Ireland, addresses having been delivered as to the necessity of action in Mr. Fleming's case to have him out back in the old homestead, and to Mr. Fleming's connection and services in the cause of Irish Nationality in the past, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That we, the Nationalists of the parish of Kiltullagh and surrounding districts, in public meeting assembled, have heard an explanation of the case of the harsh eviction of Mr. John Fleming, of Altore, and his mother, condemn in the strongest terms the action of those instrumental in having them evicted, and the continued obduracy in refusing to come to a settlement as to the real ownership of the farm." That we appeal to all Nationalists in the surrounding districts, and also to all Nationalists abroad, for help to enable Mr. Fleming to fight his cause, and to sustain him and his family in their efforts to regain the old home and farm, and that in the mean time we pledge ourselves to erect a new house for him until he gets back his own."

Patrick Kelly, chandler, late of James Green, Kilkenny.

MASHERSON—Dec. 22, 1898, at 107 Rathgar road, Francis Masterson, eldest son of Philip Masterson, Bruce, County Cavan, aged 50 years.

DOWLING—Dec. 30, 1898, at 21 Green street, Mrs. Margaret Dowling, relict of the late William Dowling, of Mary's lane.

TURNER—Dec. 30, at 32 Upper Clonbrassil street, Samuel Turner, aged 47 years.

BYRNE—Jan. 9, 1899, at 24 Usher's Island, Michael J. Byrne.

CULLEN—Jan. 10, 1899, at 135 Thomas street, Michael Joseph Cullen, aged 18 years.

DEMPSEY—At Lackagh, Monasteraven, Bridget Dempsey, the only daughter of Edward Dempsey, and a pupil of the convent of the Cross and Passion, Kilkullen, aged 16 years.

DONOHUE—Jan. 9, 1899, at 13 Wicklow terrace, Annesley avenue, Margaret Donohue, aged 17 years.

GREER—Jan. 10, 1899, at St. Joseph's Presentation Convent, Locan, Mary (in religion Sister Mary Evangelist), in the eleventh years of her profession, eldest daughter of the late James Greer, Esq., Inspector National Board of Education, Roseville, Tuam, County Galway.

KEATING—At the Parochial House, Keating, Waterford, Rev. Maurice Keating, P. P.

KELLETT—At South Great George's street, Annie Marian Kellett, aged 17 years.

LYNCH—At Kildorough, Ballyjamesduff, John Lynch, aged 74 years.

MCANN—Oct. 27, 1898, at Highland, near Butte City, Mont., Owen McAnn, aged 74 years.

MGRANE—Jan. 8, 1899, at 202 Clonliffe road, Drumcondra, Mrs. Catherine McGrane, relict of the late Miles McGrane, 1 New Lisbon street.

MURRAY—Jan. 8, 1899, at Leeson street, Thomas Murray, for eleven years coachman to the Lord Chief Baron.

REIDY—Jan. 10, 1899, at the Mall, Westport, Mrs. Catherine Reidy, aged 55 years, Ballyhaunis, and mother of the Rev. Thomas J. Reidy, Claremorris.

RYAN—At his residence Dargavelly, County Clare, Michael Ryan, aged 63 years.

KILDARE. Died, Dec. 27, 1898, at Fernstock, Nicholas Foran, aged 80 years. Interment was in Cloncurry.

KILKENNY. Most Rev. Dr. O'Reilly, Archbishop of Adelaide, Australia, who recently celebrated his 52d birthday, is a native of Kilkenny. During many years he was printer, publisher and proprietor of the Catholic Record of Western Australia. He went to South Australia in May, 1888, as first Bishop of Augusta.

A cursing club has been established in Castlecomer, it might be said revived, because seventeen or eighteen years ago the people had the pleasure of seeing many a well-contested trial between the real bloods of the locality and surrounding counties. The last stake run off here was £25, when a Carlow man had the honor and pleasure of carrying away the prize with his brindle and white dog.

KINGS. The Bank of Ireland, treasurers to the Tullamore Board, has stopped payment, as there is an overdraft of £3,000.

Mr. Symon P. Creagh died Dec. 22 at Mount Loftus.

LONGFORD. Mr. Edgeworth of Edgeworthstown will be the representative of his district in the County Council, under the new Local Government law. He is a good representative as could be found.

LOUTH. The quarterly meeting of the St. Patrick's Catholic Young Men's Society, Dundalk, was held in the hall, Jocelyn street, New Year's Day. The chair was occupied by Rev. F. McNece, spiritual director, and there was a good attendance of members. The report and statement of accounts having been passed, the reverend chairman congratulated the members on the great progress made by the society. Mr. James McCourt, president, distributed the prizes in the handicap in the field room.

MEATH. Meetings have been held all over the county and candidates were selected for the local councils created by the New Local Government law. Conferences were of the most satisfactory nature, and only those who deserved the honor were adopted as candidates.

QUEENS. A meeting was held on Sunday at Rosenallis for the purpose of selecting a suitable person as candidate for County Councillor for the Tinnahinch Electoral Division of the Queen's County. The Rev. James E. Delaney occupied the chair. It was proposed by Mr. John Conroy, Tinnahinch, and seconded by Mr. P. McCormack, Rearymore, "That this meeting select Mr. W. Dunne, Reary, as County Councillor for Tinnahinch Division of Queen's County." The selection was unanimous.

WESTMEATH. On Sunday further references to the demise of the Most Rev. Dr. Nulty, Bishop of Meath, were made at the Masses in the Cathedral, Mullingar. Rev. E. O'Reilly, administrator, stated that such was the love entertained by Dr. Nulty for his flock in Mullingar that in his will he gave it as a dying

request that his bones should be laid among them.

Traders, farmers and landowners in and around Mullingar are making an effort to have a line of railway made from Mountmallick to their town.

The good religious in the Convent of Our Lady of Mercy, Killebeggan, are organizing a bazaar to assist them in educating 300 poor children, and to enable them to give spiritual and temporary comfort to all who need it. No better work could be assisted by those who love to help the poor and needy. The good sisters have issued an appeal for help which will not fall upon unheeding ears or hard hearts. Subscriptions or donations may be sent to Sister Columba, Convent of Our Lady of Mercy, Killebeggan, Westmeath. Books of tickets for the bazaar will be forwarded to all who desire to help the good cause.

WEXFORD. The generosity of the people of New Ross in their subscriptions toward the building fund of the new parish church is marvelous. The annual collection held a few Sundays ago amounted to over £1,500. This was the fourth annual collection, and it was the largest.

Miss Marjorie Fitzgerald, youngest daughter of Lord and Lady Fitzgerald, died recently, deeply regretted by all.

DIED—Jan. 6 at Coolamain, Anastasia Cummins, youngest daughter of Mr. James Cummins, aged 11 years.

Jan. 1 at Tighmon, Mary Dunne, at 5 St. John's Terrace, Ennisceorthy, Thomas Kennedy.

On Jan. 3 Mr. G. W. Warren succeeded in putting up for sale the tenant's interest in the lands of Bridewell, containing twenty acres, held under a perpetual tenancy, at the yearly rent of £9 6s. Mr. David Donohue, Ballyconner, bid £113, but the sale was withdrawn, as the reserve price was not reached. Subsequently Mr. Donohue purchased the holding for £115 by private treaty.

The friends and admirers from the parish of Cranford and Monaseed of the Rev. J. W. O'Byrne (late of Monaseed) met on Jan. 3 at the Railway Hotel, Gorey, to present him with an address and purse of sovereigns as a token of their love and esteem.

WICKLOW. Mrs. Bridget Doyle, Tinoran Hill, Maltinglass, was found dead last week. Her child died soon after her.

On Tuesday Mr. Bernard Lynam, Chief Permanent Way Inspector of the Dublin, Wicklow and Wexford Railway, was accidentally killed a short distance north of Bray level crossing. The deceased was proceeding to inspect a portion of the line, and knew that the 10 o'clock up train was following. He stepped out of the way on to the siding, whereupon he was knocked down and run over by an engine and carriage which was shunting and the presence of which he was unaware of. Deceased had been in the company's service for thirty-five years.

MUNSTER. CLARE. A terrific storm, blowing northwest, swept over Clare, and in the rural districts did much injury. There was vivid lightning and thunder for most of the night. A large limestone cross, weighing about five hundredweight, was thrown to the ground from the stable of the Kilrush Convent of Mercy and smashed to pieces. It was erected 37 years ago.

Very Rev. Father Newell, P. P., V. G. of Ennistymon, died suddenly on Sunday morning, Jan. 8, as he was preparing to celebrate 7 o'clock Mass in the Convent of the Sisters of Mercy.

Rev. Father Flanagan, C. C., Upper Feakle, died Sunday, Jan. 8, in his 27th year. He was a native of Corofin, and had been only four years on the mission. He had been stationed in Mayo and in Ballinasloe previous to his appointment to Feakle.

With regret we record the death of the Rev. Gerald Byrne, P. P., Williams town, Australia. Father Byrne was a native of County Clare, and at the time of his death was in his first year. His early studies were pursued in a secondary school in his own parish, from which he graduated to the famous missionary college of All Hallows, Dublin where he was raised to the priesthood by Cardinal Cullen on June 24, 1865 being then 28 years of age; consequently the reverend gentleman had spent 33 years in the exercise of the sacred ministry. Shortly after his ordination the young levite left Ireland for missionary work in Australia, arriving in Victoria toward the end of that year. He was for stated periods stationed at South and North Melbourne, Essendon and St. Kilda.

CORK. Very Rev. Archdeacon Coghlan, P. P., preached on Sunday, Jan. 8, on behalf of the charities associated with the Sisters of Charity, St. Mary of the Isles. The response was generous.

Michael Young of North street, Skibbereen, died suddenly Dec. 30, 1898.

Michael Madden, Kiltbroney, near Puttevant, was killed on the line of the Great Southern Railway, near Puttevant, on Jan. 6.

The death of Mr. Dan Collins, North St. Skibbereen, happened on Christmas Day, deeply and widely regretted by all who knew him. The funeral to Caberagh Cemetery was numerously attended.

Mrs. Patrick O'Donohue, nee Collins died Dec. 27, 1898, at Brockville, Ontario, Canada, in her 80th year. Her husband was the late Mr. Patrick O'Donohue, of Clonakilty. Deceased was born in Castlefrake, Bay Barry.

Michael Dee, Ceolmagraigue, was sentenced to two months' imprisonment Jan. 2, at Listowel Petty Sessions, for an alleged assault on Michael Bambury, who was arraigned before the local branch of the United Irish League for meddling with a farm from which Dee had been evicted.

A meeting of the working people of Tralee was held in the Concert Hall, Tralee, Jan. 4. Mr. Thomas Slattery presiding, when these resolutions were unceremoniously passed: (1) That we support no candidate who is not a pronounced Nationalist, (2) who is not in favor of a Catholic University for Ireland; (3) who is not in favor of building proper sanitary houses for the workingman and the artisan, which will become their property when clear of building expenses."

Members of the United Irish League of Ballybunion selected as candidate for the County Councilors of the Liselton district, Mr. P. Carroll of Ballybunion attended the meeting. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Doran, Parnellite. Present, Michael Kennedy, M. O'Connor, Edmond Kiasane, T. McEilligott, M. O'Driscoll, Robert Fleming, John O'Connor, Edward Enright, Cornelius Mulvihill, L. O'Mahony, D. Quinlan, M. Connor, John H. Danagher, honorary secretary, and others.

One of those entertainments which are so popular with the people of the Very Rev. Canon Hegarty's parish, and which help him to carry on his schemes to the advancement of the temporal and spiritual welfare of the parishioners, was held in the schools, Carrignavar. The building was crowded, and a programme of songs, serious and comic, recitations and instrumental items, was enthusiastically received.

The ancient and historic little town of Timoleague was, on New Year's eve, or night, the theatre of an animated and joyous scene as ever marked its eventful history. At the dawn of the year just passed a celebration worthy of the traditions of the place was held to inaugurate the centenary of 1798, and was honored by state processions, and the sturdy fellows who took part thought it right to close the year with a similar celebration. Accordingly, the brass band that had on many an occasion done distinguished service in the cause of Nationality, turned out at midnight, and proceeded by a torchlight procession, in which blazing oil barrels, carried on an iron truck, formed a prominent feature, several times traversed the streets, playing National airs, and followed by an immense concourse of persons. A hopeful sign of the times was in the fact that all classes and creeds seemed to enter with one heart into the spirit of the celebration. The scene was transferred from the streets to the far famed Abbey burial ground, and there, by the light of the oil barrels, a meeting was held under the presidency of Dr. Magner, at which speeches were delivered by the Doctor, Messrs. Downing and O'Donovan on subjects appropriate to the occasion and exhorting them to hold in perpetuity the principles professed by the patriots of 1798 and 1867 until an opportunity should offer to put them into practice, which would result in placing Ireland among the nations of the earth under her own immortal green flag.

RECENT DEATHS IN CORK. MURPHY—Jan. 4, at 67 Barrack street, Michael Murphy, of Ballinaberna.

TAPLEY—On Jan. 6, at Fermoy, Hannah Tapley, aged 37 years.

HARTNETT—On Jan. 4, at the North Infirmary (of pneumonia), Daniel Hartnett, Cork Butter Exchange.

COONEY—On Jan. 6, at Magazine road, Patrick Cooney, aged 37 years.

CAMPION—On Jan. 5, at 137 Evergreen road, John Campion.

and seriously affected the other. Coffey's eye is almost destroyed, but Burns escaped unhurt.

TIPPERARY. Laurence Ryan, Killoshane, near Borrisoleigh, was shot and seriously wounded, on Jan. 4, at the fair in Phurles, by it is said, Patrick Moran and James Dwyer, of Cappawhite. It happened during a dispute over the price of a horse Ryan had sold to Moran.

Among those who are making the Cappawhite branch of the Irish League a success are: M. Flood, W. Duggan, P. Duggan, P. Sadler, J. Ryan, D. Fahey, J. Dwyer, J. White, M. Flood.

At New Plymouth, New Ireland, Mrs. Madden passed to her eternal reward on Nov. 23. She was the mother of Mr. H. P. Madden, of Ashburton, and relict of the late Stephen Collet Madden, of Clonmel, Tipperary, and reached the age of 77 years.

WATERFORD. A young man named Frizby, a shunter on the Waterford and Central Ireland Railway, was caught between the buffers of two wagons on Jan. 4, and so seriously injured that slight hopes of his recovery are entertained.

CLUSTER. ANTRIM. The Gaelic class in Cushendall is doing fine. Father Convery is working zealously to have the Irish language restored to its rightful place in the minds, hearts and on the tongues of the people.

On New Year's Day, in Ballycarry, a monument was unveiled to the memory of the Ulster boy patriot, Willie Nelson, recalling the fact that "he was done to death for Ireland in 1798." The lad—he was only 16—was hanged from a sycamore tree growing near his widowed mother's house for having, on June 17, galloped off on horseback through Island Magee "to raise the country" and to summon the people of Donegore Hill. He died with the utmost bravery. His poor mother lost her reason.

On New Year's Eve the members of the Henry Joy McCracken '98 Club, Greenacres, organized a torchlight procession in commemoration of the services rendered to Ireland by the men of '98. The processionists were headed by a marshal on a gray charger and wearing an Emmet uniform, immediately behind came the Henry Joy McCracken Flute Band, with magnificent banners; then fifty torchbearers, a concourse of persons bringing up the rear. Fire rockets and illuminations marked the progress of the procession, which wended its way to the junction of the Whitehall Road, where Joseph Devlin, Belfast, and others made patriotic orations.

ARMAGH. On Dec. 28 a grand concert was given in the Town Hall, Magherafelt, in aid of the funds of the Portadown bazaar. It was numerously attended. From all points of view it was a success.

Susan Cunningham, Faughlietra, died on Jan. 6, at the age of 104 years. The deceased was able to get about until the last, being ill only a day.

CAVAN. The average under flax in Ulster last year was only 35,000 as compared with 44,000 in 1897, the quality being for the most part poor, while this year it is not expected to exceed 30,000 acres. The manufacturing trade has been of fair average proportions. The general export trade, with the exception of the United States, has been a fair average.

DERRY. Eirenach, in Gaelic notes, says: "Fifty years ago the Ossianic tales were known in all their purity in the parish of Dungiven, and particularly in Benady (Beanna-Fhada), the home of the McCloskeys. Two miles from Dungiven is the townland of Cluntygeach, and here those ancient tales and other tales of ancient Gaelic learning remained till a still later period. Even now many of the children know Irish, as a Belfast Gaelic Leaguer discovered to his delight, when going through the place last summer. Strange to say, no effort seems to have been made to utilize this clade—to strengthen it against the insidious attacks of Anglicization—to make it a centre from which the surrounding districts may be brought to recover the use of their native tongue."

DONEGAL. Mr. Michael Mooney of Cahame, Culdaff, who was an evicted tenant, was found dead in Strawrudden, Jan. 8.

DOWN. John Carlisle, Dunmore, farmer, was found dead on Sileve Cruik Mountain, three miles from Dromara, on Dec. 31.

FERMANAGH. The dead body of Bernard Flanagan, farmer, was found in the river near Monea Village last week. How he came by his death is not known.

John Trotter, who shot and killed the young man named Dolan, at Derrygonnelly, Dec. 26, 1898, has been lodged in Dundrum Criminal Asylum. Of course the trial will be a matter of form, as the unfortunate man is insane and cannot be held responsible for his actions.

The chewing gum manufacturers of the United States have consummated an amalgamation. Whether or not this will cheapen the product is not stated. There is, however, some jawing over the outcome.