

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.

Lieu. John D'Arcy, late superintendent of the Prospect Hill cemetery, Galway, was found dead in a field near the cemetery on Sept. 2. He was the eldest son of late Rev. John D'Arcy, Protestant rector of Galway.

Mrs. Mary Anne McDonagh, wife of James McDonagh, cook, Battery N., U. S. Artillery, and daughter of late Mr. Laurence Lardner, grocer and spirit merchant, Athenry, died on Saturday, Sept. 7, of yellow fever at Key West, Fla. She left a boy two years of age to mourn her loss.

Mr. J. Vincent Taaffe, vice-president of the branch of the Irish National League in South Islington, London, visited Galway a couple of weeks ago, and spent some of his time in the company of Mr. William O'Connell, M. P., at Galway. He much admired the scenery and said that it is well for those who are able to live in a city possessing such romantic surroundings.

Most Rev. Dr. McEvilly, Archbishop of Tuam, has given a donation of \$50 to Rev. Laurence Ansbore, P. P., of Annadown. The site of the new church of St. Brendan is a select one, looking down from an eminence on Lough Corrib, between which and it lie extending the ruins of Annadown's ancient glory, viz.: The Nunnery of St. Briga, sister of St. Brendan; the Monastery of the Premonstratensians, called "A portu Maria," still in a fair state of preservation, and, lastly, the remains of the episcopal residence. For Annadown was once, and for a long time, a bishopric extending into Galway in Galway.

Rossmuck Church Dedicated.—On Oct. 1 the beautiful new church of Rossmuck, Connemara, was solemnly dedicated by the Most Rev. Dr. McDonagh, (Bishop of Galway. The Church is built on a hillside and commands a view of the whole parish, and certainly a more romantic district could not be conceived. The sea, in its long, winding, serpentine course, extending eight miles, breaks up the parish in a curious fashion, rendering it practically a series of islands and promontories. Separate districts are thus formed—Vettersmore, Camus and Rossmuck. The Board should certainly connect by a causeway and bridge the Rossmuck and Camus districts, where the sea is narrow, inland, promontory, semibarren, mountain and lake combine to form a scenic band of indescribable charm. The newly renovated, or I might say, the newly erected church, is cruciform, consisting of a nave, chancel and transept. The nave is 70 feet long, the transept from gable to gable, measures 75 feet by 22 feet, the height of the church is about 77 feet to the ridge of the roof. Multi apparatus is constructed at the junction of the arms of the cross, consisting of a tower and spire, surmounted by an arched cross, which measures 7 1/2 feet. The style of the church is in lancet-headed Gothic in the eastern gable. There is a triple lancet window of richly colored variegated glass. Each of the transept gables contain a triple lancet window also of colored glass with red border. There is a lancet window of colored glass in each of the side walls of the left transept, and also an entrance door of Gothic design, with cathedral glass inserted. On the framework in the western gable of the nave there are three duplex windows of colored glass, with red border. The church is all unadorned in white deal and pitch gables. The roof over the church is slated and paneled. At the ceremony the Rev. John McNamara, C. S. R., preached an eloquent sermon in the Gaelic language.

LEITRIM.

The death of Edward Doyle, merchant, Ballinamore, happened on Sept. 23 to the great regret of his family and numerous friends.

Mr. James Macanley, D. C., of Creerwea, a few weeks ago was about leaving to take up an important position in the United States. Mr. Macanley was elected to represent an important portion of his native parish in the district council.

An order was lately issued from the High Court of Justice in Ireland, Chancery Division, Land Judges, for the sale of portion of the Tottenham estate, in Leitrim. That portions are McEnagh, Loughs, Lightoes, Laghty, Barr, Skregh, Corranbeg, Carrickreeagh, including the islands adjoining the Leitrim shore of Lough Macanagh, Ardmoreen, Moneyduff, Stranagross and Lacoan.

MAYO.

The death occurred on Sept. 10, at Sandhill, Westport, of Miss Mary Lavelle, daughter of the late Mr. Michael Lavelle, for many years principal teacher of Derrygonnan National School.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mrs. Conway which took place Sept. 24 at Ballymarin, Kilmaine. Deceased had attained the age of 75, and throughout her long life enjoyed the esteem of all with whom she had acquaintance. This, and being connected with the oldest and most respectable families in the barony of Kilmaine, was amply testified to by the immense and respectable cortege, extending for upwards of a mile, of cars, carts and horsemen which followed the remains to the old Franciscan Abbey of Ballinacorney. The chief mourners were Walter, John and William Conway, sons; Andrew Malley, grandson; Mrs. John Conway, daughter; Mrs. Patrick Heaney, Mrs. J. Nave, and Mrs. P. Hezellan, sisters. The Rev. Father Loftus, Kilmaine, officiated at the grave.

ments to present a testimonial to him as a mark of their esteem.

The death of Mr. William Lawrence Fortwilliam, Boyle, on Sept. 26, caused deep regret in the districts around his home. He was aged 69 years. Until recently he was Postmaster in Boyle.

The laying of the foundation stone of the new technical schools in Roscommon was performed by Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Ephin, Sept. 24, assisted by Fathers Crocoran and Humphreys. Immediately after the ceremony a procession was formed, in which the children of the Sisters of Mercy and the Children of Mary took part.

For the past few weeks evictions were carried out on the estate of Lord de Frey, at Felymount. At the meeting of the Castlereagh District Council Sept. 23 the destitute state of the families was mentioned, and the Council decided to grant relief. During a discussion as to the granting of relief to a family of five children, who were evicted, and whose father is in England, one of the councillors said that emergency men were put into the house instead of the poor victims evicted who might have been admitted as caretakers, and thus have a roof over them.

SILIGO.

The treasurer of the Siligo Club was instructed recently to pay the contractor of the memorial the five hundred dollars balance due on the work. This is a very satisfactory finish and highly creditable to those who managed the memorial undertaking.

Mr. P. Rooney presided at a recent meeting of the Olenear branch of the United Irish League, when these resolutions were unanimously adopted: (1) That we again place on record our confidence in our patriotic representative, Mr. P. A. McHugh, and tender him our warmest congratulations for the able manner in which he has trumped on Castle rule in Connaught. (2) That we condemn Mr. Smith, R. M., and his confederates in Droghair for juggling a force of police into that village, and the cruel manner these bludgeoned warriors acted toward the people of Siligo and Leitrim, who came there for a perfectly legal purpose. (3) That any member of this branch who holds communication with the grabber who took Mrs. McDonagh's farm will be expelled from the branch, public censure being brought to bear on them. (4) That we will support any branch which takes note.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW.

To make the teaching of the children of Carlow more efficient, as well as in the interests of the health of the pupils, it has been decided to build a new Presentation school to cost \$14,000. A sum of \$5,000 will be given by the National Bank, and the remainder will have to be raised by subscription, etc. A bazaar in aid of the fund will be opened in Carlow by Most Rev. Dr. Foley. The prizes received are valuable.

DUBLIN.

The latest death rate in Dublin was at the rate of 40.2 per thousand per annum.

Miss Lucy E. Ryan, secretary of Branch Joseph Hutchinson of the Irish National Foresters, Dublin, was a delegate to the recent convention of the order in Greenock.

The funeral of Mr. John O'Rourke, a well known Dublin musician, took place Sept. 22. The cortege started from 9 Merrion row, for Mount Jerome Cemetery, where the interment took place, and included a large number of representative citizens and professional brethren of the deceased gentleman.

The death of the Right Hon. John Monro, for many years a judge of the Land Court, occurred at Bartra, Dalky Sept. 23. Deceased retired from the judicial bench several years ago. He was a native of County Armagh, was called to the Bar in 1863; joined the North-east Circuit; rapidly gained a reputation for legal ability, rare and sound judgment; was made a Queen's counsel in 1877; solicitor-general in 1884-5, and became a member of the Privy Council in 1884.

CONROY.—Sept. 25 (suddenly), at 8 Merrion View avenue, Sarah Conroy.

GILHAM.—Sept. 27, at 45 Rutland square, John Gilham, clerk for 17 years in the Castlebar Asylum.

COLEMAN.—Sept. 15, at 40 Belgrave road, Rathmines, Michael Coleman of 25 Chancery street, aged 58 years.

TYRRELL.—Sept. 25, at 54 Manor street, Mary Josephine Tyrrell, aged 22 years.

CILSEANAN.—Sept. 23, at Loretto Abbey, Rathfriland, Mary (in religion Sister Mary Consilio), in the 36th year of her age and the 6th of her religious life, only daughter of Mrs. Gliseman, Miltown, Beltrubel.

HIBALY.—Sept. 23, at Castle Martin Cottage, Martry, Laurence Healy, aged 52 years.

WALSH.—Sept. 24, at the Mater Hospital Richard Walsh (late 169 D. M. P. Mountjoy).

KINSHELLA.—Sept. 23, Owen Kinsella 59 Upper Leeson street.

NICHOLSON.—Sept. 23, at the Hospice for the Dying, Francis Joseph Nicholson, late of St. Lawrence place, Fontenoy street.

SWIFT.—Sept. 23, at High street, Mr. Richard Swift.

MACSHEEHY.—Sept. 26, at 35 Gardiner's place (suddenly), Brian MacSweeney L. L. D. (late head inspector of national schools) aged 71.

MURRAY.—Sept. 27, at 164 Capel street, Edward Murray.

WOGAN.—Sept. 27, at Ballymadam, Ashbourne, Michael Wogan, son of the late Michael Wogan.

KELLY.—Sept. 26, at 3 Middle Gardiner street, Mrs. Kelly.

LEVINSON.—Sept. 25, at 61 Summerhill Peter Levinson.

KILDARE.

Mr. Boumes, Postmaster of Neas, has been appointed to the postmastership of Kildare.

Mrs. Grogan of Maynooth has received the following letter: "My Dear Mrs. Grogan—Please accept from an old Maynooth student, the enclosed sum towards the completion of the new College Church. In connection with

your many friends, I rejoice that to you have been reserved the crowning work for dear Alma Mater. A quarter of a century ago a first subscription of £5 was sent to the reverend and venerated Doctor Russell, from most faithfully yours. A Priest in the West of Ireland, Sept. 25, 1899."

KILKENNY.

At a recent meeting of Callan Board of Guardians Mr. P. Kichham, R. O., reported that he received an eviction notice at the suit of A. Going and Bena Going against Thos. Healy, of Farrenory.

The remains of Mr. Weldon Walshe, late agent of the Earl of Bessborough and the Marquis of Waterford, were interred in the Catholic cemetery, Kilkenny, recently. He died in Ballybunow, County Kerry.

Piltown Church Dedicated.—One of the most impressive ceremonies of the Catholic church was witnessed Oct. 1, when the new Catholic church at Piltown was dedicated. Not only local residents, but Catholics from the counties of Tipperary and Waterford were present. The church is one hundred and ten feet long, width forty-three feet, and the width of the nave twenty feet. The six bays in the church are supported by Aberdeen granite pillars, mounted by carved Portland capitals. The church is built entirely of gray marble from the Piltown quarry, the altars are lighted with double light windows, the sanctuary window is a fine light twenty-five feet by twelve; the windows at each side of the church number six lower and seven upper ones, all of which are the gifts of friends, as is the mosaic in the sanctuary. Nearly all the rest of the cost of this splendid building has been defrayed by the pence of the parishioners. The total cost is £6,738 of which £6,254 has been paid off leaving a balance of less than £500 due. This is very creditable when one considers that it is the work of 104 laborers, the shopkeepers of the two villages of Piltown and Piltown and about twenty-eight or thirty farmers. The site selected for the church was a splendid one, but it is to be regretted that the demesne wall of Bessborough shuts off one of the most charming views in Ireland—a fairland scene in truth.

KING.

The National School in Killybeg, about three miles from Birr, was almost totally wrecked on Oct. 4. This is not the first time the building was so attacked.

KING.

A branch of the Labor League has been founded in Longford.

On Sept. 27 a very successful concert and dance was given at Grotteragh at the conclusion of the bazaar held the previous days in aid of the repairs of the chapel. At the concert there were many visitors from Longford, Mohill and Dromod, and the surrounding districts. Mr. J. Stephens of Mohill bore off the palm of the evening for his comic character singing. Miss Lizzie Duignan of Mohill and Miss Annie McGushion of Dromod were highly appreciated.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. Michael Boyce, Lisnagura. Deceased, who was a nephew of the late Rev. J. Boyce, St. Teresa's New York; Rev. W. Boyce, Tray College, New York; Rev. Mother Mary, Ursuline convent, New York; Rev. J. Green, Kilmunery, had been in failing health and was advised by his medical attendants to go to the seaside (Kingstown), where he died on Sept. 15. The large and imposing cortege that accompanied his remains to the cemetery at Ardagh was a sufficient testimony of the esteem in which he was held.

On Sept. 23 an important meeting was held in Dromard to form a branch of the United Irish League. On the motion of N. Morris, seconded by Mr. Peter Mulligan, Mr. John Mollaghan proposed, and Mr. John Jones seconded: "That we establish a branch of the United Irish League, as it is the only means of uniting our forces to fight the common enemy." Mr. Brady proposed and Mr. Kelly seconded: "That we desire to place on record our admiration of the pluck displayed by the Mullingar County Council, and we trust that in the near future the green flag will wave triumphantly over the Longford Courthouse."

LOUTH.

Rev. Felix McNeese, C. C., left Dundalk recently, to take up the duties of his sacred ministry in Co. Louth, County Tyrone. The members of the Catholic Young Men's Society, of which he was spiritual director, have summoned a meeting to make arrangements to present him with a token of esteem.

Mr. Michael O'Meara, secretary Omeath Branch of the Gaelic League, says about the resolution condemning Mr. John Dillon, M. P., passed at recent meeting: "Our branch was not regularly constituted and a committee and officers appointed for three weeks after the meeting, presided over by Cardinal Logue, at which the resolution was passed. We are not, therefore, responsible for it."

Sunday, Sept. 24, a great meeting was held in Drogheda, in honor of the memories of Wolfe Tone, John Boyle O'Reilly, Col. Leonard and the heroes of '98. The Dublin contingent was met by the Dundalk Emmet Band, Drogheda Trades Band, Col. Leonard Fire and Drum Band, Alderman McCullough, president Trades Council, other representatives of the Nationalists of Drogheda. The Dublin contingent comprised Wolfe Tone Association, Old Guard Union, Emmet Costume Association, Lord Edward Fitzgerald Club, Drogheda Men's Association, and the Drogheda Emmet '98 Club, accompanied by banner and club representing a very fine bust of Robert Emmet.

MEATH.

Died.—Sept. 25, Mary Meade, Hopkinstown, Slane; interment in Killybeg Cemetery.

Sept. 25, St. James avenue, Clonliffe road, Mrs. Josephine Wickham.

Sept. 25, Mrs. Anna Lacey, Millwood Lane.

At Oldcastle, Maria Crean. A large meeting of friends of Rev. J. Brogan, C. C., Oldcastle, was convened in the Naper Arms, Sept. 25, to take steps to present him with a souvenir on his departure from Oldcastle to Ballymore. Present: J. Gibney, M. P., J. Tuile, County Council; M. Hand Chairman Poor Law Board; J. E. Shannon, Manager Hibernian Bank; Dr. Skelly, T. M. Grace, J. Carolan, Naper Arms Hotel; J. F. McInerney, Endowed Schools; W. J. Devere, Michael Lynch, Thomas Gillie, Hugh Gibson, J. Crean, Patrick O'Reilly, Michael Fox, J. Hennessy, Michael Culligan, Michael Tuile, Fenner; William Monaghan, Oldcastle, etc. Mr. Gibney, M. P., was moved to the chair. Mr. Tuile proposed and Mr. P. O'Reilly seconded: "That a subscription list be now opened and that subscriptions be invited to the testimonial fund." Many subscriptions were handed to the treasurers Messrs. Shannon, Grace and Tuile.

On Sunday, Sept. 10, a successful mission was brought to a close in the parishes of Kilmessan and Dunsany. The mission, which lasted a fortnight, was conducted by Fathers Bourke (Coyle and Lynch, of the Madempriorist Order. That the mission had successfully accomplished its glorious work was evidenced in the names of the confessionalists.

On Sunday, at Kilmessan, after second Mass, celebrated by Very Rev. Dr. Morrison, P. P., and sermon by Father Lynch, C. S. R., the blessing of the Mission Cross took place. In August, 1860, after the mission by Father Harrison a mission cross was erected in the chapel yard, but ten years ago was destroyed during a storm. The present cross takes its place and was on Sunday solemnly blessed. The mission closed with Solemn Renewal of Baptismal Vows, Papal Blessing and Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament, before bestowing the latter the voices of the kneeling people rang out in clear tones, "God bless the pope." It was a singular sight, one grand manifestation of Irish loyalty and devotion. The good fathers left behind them moralists to perpetuate their work, principally new branches to the Sacred Heart, Sodality and Devotion to Our Lady of Perpetual Succor.

QUEEN'S.

The fight for the "land for the people" is now on, and the issue will be an unequalled victory for the Irish people. But the length of the struggle will depend on the manner in which the people of the counties make war on the British garrison, an early rout will result; if not, a weary and long struggle will ensue. The people of the Queen's County are fully alive to the importance of quick and united work, and are, therefore, making efforts to establish branches of the United Irish League all over the county. Priests and people, as of old, are determined to the unholy thing—landlordism—as soon as possible.

WESTMEATH.

War for the flag approved.—The following resolution was unanimously adopted by Mullingar Town Commissioners at the meeting of Oct. 3, on the motion of Mr. James Allen, seconded by Mr. Francis Stafford: "That we record our hearty approval of the manly and patriotic action of the Westmeath County Council in asserting their rights as the people's representatives to the possession of the Courthouse, and of their gallant effort to hoist thereon the National flag of our country, and we give them all the support in our power to continue their struggle."

The Rev. Walter Walker, C. C., lately transferred to Boyle was on Sept. 24 the recipient of a very flattering address from the community of Drum, one of the outlying parishes of St. Peter's, Athlone. He founded the local temperance society. He was met by the Drum Temperance Eife and Drum Band, and by a large number of parishioners, who accompanied him to the schoolhouse, where the address was read. The following names were appended to the address: M. Killion, Michael Delaney, Frank Kenny, Jas. Killion, John Killion, John Kenny, P. Killion, P. Macken, Owen Coyle, M. J. Durney and the Misses Coyle. Rev. Father Hurley, C. C., Father Walker's successor, presided, and the address expressed the regret of the people that the devoted labors of Father Walker for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the people of that part of the extensive diocese of Elphin had come to a close. Rev. Father Walker said he accepted their address with mingled feelings—sorrow that he was leaving such kind and generous friends. He advised them to be Irishmen, be true to their country, to their faith, and to their God.

WICKLOW.

Died.—At Ballywilliam Post Office, ex-Sergeant Fitzpatrick, aged 65 years.

Sept. 18, at Mount Alexander, Gorey, Mary Anne Leacy.

The pattern, or the dressing of graves, took place in St. Michael's Cemetery, Faythe, Wexford, on Sept. 28. The feast of the patron saint did not take place until Friday, but it has always been the custom to keep the festival of the dressing of the graves on the eve. On that evening the relations and friends of the departed ones go to the grave sides and decorate them. This has been the custom from time immemorial, and it is indeed gratifying to find that the people whose dearest friends have gone before them do not forget their duty to the dead. On this occasion the pattern assumed larger dimensions than has been remembered for many years back.

Mr. Ward of the Great Southern and Western Railway Company was engaged recently in visiting the proposed stations on the new line between Waterford and Rosslare. He spent some time with the Very Rev. Canon Doyle of Ramsgrange, and was greatly impressed with the evidence of want of railway communication in the district. He was of opinion that the company would make a branch line to Ramsgrange and the Hook as to the requirements of the Wellingtonbridge station, and what to Bridgetown, where he got the necessary information from Rev. P. F. Kehoe, assisted by Mr. M.

On Oct. 1, occurred the death of John Kelly, son of Mr. John Kelly at Consumptive Hotel, Newcastle, aged 21 years. Deceased resided at 32 Irish-town road, Dublin, and had been in the General Post Office.

LIMERICK.

Thomas Abern, a shopkeeper, Maiden street, Newcastle West, was lately charged with taking forcible possession of premises from which he had been evicted. The case was postponed for one week. Accused allowed out on bail.

Mr. John Coleman, Co. C. chairman of the Croom Rural District Council, presented a few evenings ago with an illuminated address and a purse of money. The presentation took place at the Croom Hotel.

TIPPERARY.

Sir John Carden and Mr. Bruce passed through Kilmeneau last week on a motor carriage, going to Templemore.

Most Rev. Dr. Croke has given a donation of one hundred dollars to the Thurles 1898 Memorial Fund.

Mrs. Tobin, of Lady Abbey, near Ardunham, died suddenly, Sept. 29, aged 60 years. A few minutes before she was in usual health and talking to her neighbors.

Died.—On September 29, at Clashanley, near Clonmel, in the 78th year of his age, John Hannigan. September 24, Thomas Joseph Kelly, Local Government Board Clerk, eldest son of the late William F. Kelly, National School Teacher, Leblinch, Tipperary, drowned while bathing in Blackrock Basin, Dublin.

On September 28 Very Rev. Father O'Neill, O. S. F., Carrickbeg, was the recipient of an illuminated address and purse of sovereigns on the occasion of his leaving for the Mission in Scotland. The people of Carrick and Carrickbeg were anxious to show the Rev. Father some token of their esteem and the movement was taken up warily.

WATERFORD.

The old fight is on once more. Sept. 24 the men of the Cappoquin established a branch of the United Irish League. A few veteran Nationalists of the Old Guard and the patriotic parish priest, launched the project. The promoters at once opened a subscription among themselves, and made up a good sum, which they sent on to the executive.

CAVAN.

The United Irish League is making great progress in this county. Many parishes have active branches, and many others are preparing to establish a branch in their districts. The union of priests and people will crown the efforts of the organization with success.

The Villages of Moneymore and Bailindery presented quite a melancholy aspect on Sept. 25, when the funeral of Rev. H. McCobly, P. P., took place. The shops were shuttered, and all along the road men, women and children wended their way to the village church to pay a last tribute of respect to their pastor. At 11 o'clock Miss Cantata was celebrated. The remains were placed on a draped catafalque in front of the high altar. The church was filled, Cardinal Logue presided, and the Rev. Hugh McOscar was celebrant.

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ULSTER.

ANTRIM.

he farm and premises known as Drumderg House, near Toomebridge, the property of Mr. Hugh O'Neill, were sold lately to Mr. Lavery for \$3,625.

September 24 the Church of the Holy Cross, Ardoyne, celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy and the Festival of the Holy Cross with impressive ceremonies.

ARMAGH.

On Sept. 21 the remains of Mr. Edward McGiffon of Curgan were conveyed from Belfast for interment in Derrymacash. Deceased was a most exemplary Catholic, and during his residence in Lurgan was a very attentive member of the Sodality of the Sacred Heart attached to St. Peter's church. The cortege proceeded from Belfast by road, and on arrival at Lurgan was met by a large number of sympathizers, who accompanied the remains to the final resting place in Derrymacash cemetery.

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