

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.

Rev. Brother Benedict L. Whelan, Joseph's Seminary, Nun's Island, Galway, reported that six pupils had passed in Irish at recent intermediate examinations, and that twenty were being prepared for next year's examinations.

Very Rev. Canon Lynskey, P. P., presided at a meeting of Nationalists at Garraffans, near Dunmore, on Dec. 15, to found a branch of the United Irish League. Mr. Thomas Fahy was elected treasurer. Mr. Thomas Walsh secretary. Three hundred members were enrolled.

Died.—Nov. 25, at Portunna, Sarah Jane Duffy, aged 17 years. Dec. 4, at Dublin, Mr. John Ward, Attorney at Law, Ballinacree.

On Dec. 2 High Mass of Requiem was solemnized in the Cathedral, Tuam, for the repose of the soul of Mr. Charles H. Blaney, celebrated. Rev. W. J. McHugh, deacon. Rev. J. McDermott, C. A. sub-deacon. Rev. J. Kilgallon, master of ceremonies. Very Rev. M. J. McHugh, president. St. Mary's college, Archbishop McEvilly presided. There was a numerous attendance of clergy and laity.

On Dec. 12 an adjourned meeting of the Tuam branch of the Gaelic League was held. Rev. J. McDermott, C. A., president, being in the chair. Present: Mr. T. B. Costello, M. C. Shine, F. Keane, J. A. Glynn, B. A. councillor; Mr. Canny, P. Walsh, P. Flanagan, J. Lohan, W. Lohan, J. Keane, Francis Keane, V. Cradly, Robert Ormsby, Patrick O'Grady, E. Lynch, J. McHugh, Gerald Hesty, J. McHugh, John Glynn, Tom Hesty, and John P. Cannon, Tuam. Mr. Glynn would read a paper entitled "The Gaelic Revival." It was a very able and instructive discourse.

LEITRIM.

At Ballyshannon Board of Guardians, Dec. 9, Dr. Patrick Fanning, late Senior House Physician Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin, was appointed, subject to approval of the Local Government Board, Medical Officer and Officer of Health for the Dispensary District of Killybegs, in Ballyshannon Union.

MAYO.

The death of Mr. Owen Kilduff, Knock, Ballyshannon, occurred on Dec. 10 to the great regret of his numerous friends. The funeral to Knock Cemetery was largely attended.

Peter Schull, of Carrowkennedy, the grabber couplet of Mrs. Barnard's land was released from Castlebar jail last week having completed three months' imprisonment for a capital assault upon one of Mrs. Samson's children.

Mr. William P. Judge, whose marriage took place in 88, Peter and Paul's Church, London, Dec. 6, is eldest son of Mr. Francis Judge, of Garystown, Claremorris. He was married to Mary M., daughter of Mr. P. O'Toole Westport. Mr. Judge was a New York Westport.

The erection of a monument in Ballyshannon to the late P. W. Nally, in the form of a large cross, on a pedestal, is being proceeded with, and will be worthy a prominent position in the square, and can be seen from any part of the town. The unveiling ceremony will take place early in January.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mrs. O'Toole, which took place at Louisburgh, Dec. 12. She deceased was in her 77th year. She was sister of Archbishop of Tuam, the late Very Rev. Canon McEvilly, Dunmore, and Mr. Walter McEvilly, co-chairman Westport District Council, and mother of Administrator of Kilmenea, Rev. Jeremiah O'Toole. The funeral took place on Thursday morning to Killybegs.

ROSCOMMON.

Miss Margaret Conlon, a native of Ballintubber, died recently in Castlebar at the very extraordinary age of 106 years. She retained possession of her faculties to the end of her life.

The death of Mr. Daniel Priest, Knockrook, Boyle, happened at the home of his son, Mr. John Priest, Chapel st., Boyle, on Dec. 15, in the 66th year of his age. The funeral to St. Martin's was numerously attended.

Miss Mary Kate Belton, died Dec. 4 at the residence of her father, Mr. Patrick Belton, Borefield, Stroke town. She was only 19 years old. The funeral on Wednesday to Kilmore, by its large and representative character, bore eloquent testimony to the esteem in which the deceased young lady was held.

A meeting of Kilmore Branch of the United Irish League was held Dec. 10 after second Mass, the president, Mr. John Flood, occupied the chair.

SILIGO.

Messrs. Muffey, Maguire and O'Donnell, the United Irish League Siligo Fall, are constantly visited by the Nationalists of Siligo. They are denounced because as every good Irishman would do—they denounced the land grabbers and proclaimed the famous doctrine of the "Land for the People!"

At a recent meeting of the Siligo District Council, Mr. P. N. White, secretary, presiding, and fifteen members of the council being in attendance, Mr. Gilmartin said he had a resolution relative to the Bellinacorney. The chairman left the chair. In consequence the resolution was not put. The chairman was pressed to resign the presidency of the meeting. Here one man's influence was able to prevent a resolution of a responsible body. It was a pitiable example of the influence of a man.

KILDARE.

The annual meeting of the Ardy branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society took place in the Young Men's rooms, Dec. 10 after last Mass, the Very Rev. Canon Germaine presiding.

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KILKENNY.

Mr. John Cavanagh, attorney of St. Paul's, died Dec. 10, at White-

great sorrow of his family and numerous friends. The interment was at Ballinacree Cemetery. A large cortege followed the remains to the grave. The chief mourners were: T. and J. McDonogh (sons); Mrs. McDonogh (widow); Miss Maggie McDonogh (daughter); Mrs. Benson (sister); Thomas and Joseph McDonogh (brothers); John Devany (uncle); James Devany, Townsfortis (cousin); James McDonogh, Pound street, Siligo (cousin); John McDonogh, Larkhill (cousin); and James Browne, Kilmacowen (cousin). Rev. Father Dillon officiated.

At recent meeting of the Highwood branch of the United Irish League, Mr. D. Guide presided. Also present: M. Simon, P. Higgins, M. Foley, J. Killoran, M. Queeran, E. Boles, D. Harter, M. T. Killoran, T. McBernott, etc. The recent political trial at the Sligo Assizes was discussed, and the part played in it by three Protestant tenant farmers of the locality was denounced as outrageous. It is well known that no three men in the district profited more by the land agitation than McMurphy, and McMaster of Cullnaglera. The following resolution was passed unanimously: "That while we extend our sympathies to Messrs. Muffey and McGuire in their lone y prison cells, we cannot allow this opportunity to pass without recording our strongest indignation at the method used by the Crown Prosecutor, whereby all Catholics were refused the right of citizenship."

The death of Mr. James Rochford, of 31 Fleet street, Dublin, occurred Dec. 14. Deceased had not enjoyed the best of health, but a trip to South Africa seemed to have a beneficial result. However, this improvement was not for long, and after a brief illness he passed away. The remains were moved from Fleet street to Kingsbridge, for Grange, Johnston, for interment.

The death of Mr. Timothy O'Rourke, Ballinakil, happened Dec. 4, to the great regret of the members of his family and friends in the old land and in the United States.

How the Land Commission work in some places. T. Daly, on the Williams estate went into the court to have a fair rent fixed with this result. Payment \$85 annually, rent in the future, \$115.

The obsequies of the Rev. Mother Mary Eva, gelatine principal in the lace making school, St. John's Convent of Mercy, Birm., took place Dec. 11. The deceased lady was one of the founders of lace making convent schools. She was a sister of Dr. Frank Cabalan, Dublin, and had several brothers and uncles in the priesthood. The officiating clergy were: Celebrant, Rev. James Toohy, Dunkerrin; deacon, Father Darcy, Birm.; sub-deacon, Father Maher, Birm.; master of ceremonies, Father R. an. Philan; Birm.; Rev. Roderic Kenny, Father Seanlan, and Father O'Flanagan, Kilmacraha; Rev. James Costigan, Kilmacraha; Rev. Michael Silverman, Nenagh; Father O'Donogh, Birm.; Father O'Dea, Roserea; Father Johnston, Frankfort; Father O'Gorman, Borrisokane; The late Mother Evangeliste who in her 81st year and the fortieth of her religious life.

WICKLOW.

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On Dec. 5 a concert and juvenile entertainment was given by the children of the Loreto Convent, Navan, the occasion being the first episcopal visit of Most Rev. Dr. Gaffney, Bishop of Meath, to the school. A very good musical faith was read on behalf of the children to his Lordship.

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WESTMIDLETH.

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On Dec. 12 the imposing ceremony of profession and reception into the order of St. John of God took place at the St. John of God Convent, Wexford, when Miss Gleeson, Templemore (in religion Sister Margaret Mary), and Miss O'Seave, Enniscorthy (in religion Sister M. de Chantilly), were professed by Miss Shanahan, Lixnaw, County Kerry (in religion Sister M. Berchmans), and Miss O'Sullivan, Waterford (in religion Sister Mary Magdalen), received the habit. Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns, officiated.

deceased assisted by Rev. P. O'Connor, rector, Church of the Assumption, and three other priests.

On Dec. 9 great regret was expressed by the people of Wexford on the death of Mr. Matthew Somers, Common-lawyer, Wexford. For thirty years Mr. Somers carried on an extensive business in the grocery and spirit trade. The best proof of the esteem in which he was held lies in the fact that for twenty years he was elected by the people of Wexford at every municipal election as a member of the Corporation.

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DESMOND—On Dec. 9, at Glantana, Joseph Desmond, aged 18, Glantana, Malloy.

O'CONNOR—On Dec. 9, Mary O'Connor, Meenahilly, Knocknagoshel.

COLEMAN—Dec. 9, at Myrtle Cottage, Aghada, Patrick Coleman, coast-guard pensioner.

LYDDY—Dec. 8 (Feast of Immaculate Conception), at Shannon V.I.W. House, Martin Lyddy, aged 45.

KERRY.

Roger McCarthy, native of Cordal, near Castleisland, died in Iracee hospital, Dec. 11, at the extraordinary age of 105 years. He possessed all his faculties to the end.

Mr. Stephen V. O'Brien-Corkery, Rose Cottage, Kenmare, has been appointed to the Commission of the Peace. The announcement was received with satisfaction throughout South Kerry.

DIED—On Dec. 10 at Rathmore place, John Twigg, aged 27. At Henra street, Killybegs, Dec. 8, (Feast of the Immaculate Conception), M. Margaret the beloved wife of Timothy Healy.

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LOUTH.

On Dec. 10 a deputal on from Jameson and Killoon, Ireland, visited the curate, Father Kelly, now in Loblinstown, for the purpose of presenting him with an address and purse of sovereigns as an evidence of their esteem. The deputal was received at the parochial house by Father Kelly and the pastor, Father McNamane. The address, which was a splendid illustration of the illuminated art, was read by Mr. Peter Brady, secretary of the committee. Father Kelly made appropriate responses.

Dec. 14 the annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Christian Schools, Drogheda, took place. The Mayor of Drogheda, Mr. Luke F. Elcock, presided, and there was a large and representative attendance of the clergy and laity.

MEATH.

Several very sudden deaths were lately reported from the county, among them those of Bryan Gault, Milltown, near Oldcastle, Alice Carey and Kate Murray in Slane.

On Dec. 5 a concert and juvenile entertainment was given by the children of the Loreto Convent, Navan, the occasion being the first episcopal visit of Most Rev. Dr. Gaffney, Bishop of Meath, to the school. A very good musical faith was read on behalf of the children to his Lordship.

QUEENS.

Mr. Jas. Rochford, brother of Rev. T. Rochford, C. C. Aghada, died recently in 31 Fleet street, Dublin. The remains were conveyed to Ballybrack Station, and from there to John's own Cemetery for interment; funeral cortege long.

Mr. Michael Foster, of Malin at Portlarrington, died Dec. 8 at the extraordinary age of 94 years. Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated in the church, and was largely attended by clergy and laity; as also was the funeral.

WESTMIDLETH.

We regret to chronicle the death of Mr. John Kearns, Mull'gar, which occurred Dec. 15, at the residence of the County Surveyor. He spent the greater portion of his long life in the service of the Midland Great Western Railway Company. Very recently he retired from the service of the company on pension.

We record with regret the death of Mr. John Dunne, which occurred Dec. 13 at Lower Main street, Arklow. Deceased was one of the tenants evicted on the Coolangy estate when the great clearance took place. The fight made at the time by the tenants is famous. For a time the country was in an actual condition of war.

On Dec. 12 the imposing ceremony of profession and reception into the order of St. John of God took place at the St. John of God Convent, Wexford, when Miss Gleeson, Templemore (in religion Sister Margaret Mary), and Miss O'Seave, Enniscorthy (in religion Sister M. de Chantilly), were professed by Miss Shanahan, Lixnaw, County Kerry (in religion Sister M. Berchmans), and Miss O'Sullivan, Waterford (in religion Sister Mary Magdalen), received the habit. Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns, officiated.

DESMOND—On Dec. 9, at Glantana, Joseph Desmond, aged 18, Glantana, Malloy.

O'CONNOR—On Dec. 9, Mary O'Connor, Meenahilly, Knocknagoshel.

COLEMAN—Dec. 9, at Myrtle Cottage, Aghada, Patrick Coleman, coast-guard pensioner.

LYDDY—Dec. 8 (Feast of Immaculate Conception), at Shannon V.I.W. House, Martin Lyddy, aged 45.

KERRY.

Roger McCarthy, native of Cordal, near Castleisland, died in Iracee hospital, Dec. 11, at the extraordinary age of 105 years. He possessed all his faculties to the end.

Mr. Stephen V. O'Brien-Corkery, Rose Cottage, Kenmare, has been appointed to the Commission of the Peace. The announcement was received with satisfaction throughout South Kerry.

DIED—On Dec. 10 at Rathmore place, John Twigg, aged 27. At Henra street, Killybegs, Dec. 8, (Feast of the Immaculate Conception), M. Margaret the beloved wife of Timothy Healy.

A successful concert and magic lantern entertainment was given in the club room, Castleisland, under the patronage of the Venerable Archdeacon O'Leary, Dec. 12 and 13. The attendance was numerous. Among those who contributed items on the programme were: Miss K. Foran, Mr. B. McCarthy, Miss Elsie Moria, Mr. H. Moran, Miss Reidy, Father Brennan, T. W. Wren, and Ven. Archdeacon O'Leary.

WICKLOW.

Mr. John Dunne, evicted tenant of the Coolangy estate, died Dec. 13, at his home in Lower Main street, Arklow, deeply mourned by all who knew him. The campaign in which he took an active part will form part of Irish history.

Mr. William Owens, of Shanganagh, died recently, deeply regretted. The requiem services were held in the Church of Sts. Alphonsus-Columba, Ballybrack, after which the remains were interred; funeral cortege long.

A boating accident occurred Dec. 9 by which a young man, who has not up to the present been identified, lost his life on the Dublin and Blessington Steam Tram Company's line between Templeogue and Kilmagee. The steam tram from Templeogue was rounding the curve, when the deceased who was walking on the line opposite Sir Peter's Shaw's gate, and before he could get out of the way, was hurled into eternity. The engine struck him with great force, knocking him down across the rails, and the wheels of the vehicle passed over his body. He was about 27 years of age.

MUNSTER.