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.

Great numbers of seals were seen along the shore in the district of Salthill, Galway, during the past few weeks. When they appear there is su[illegible] it is a sure sign of bad weather at sea.

The death of Mr. John Stanton Kerin, of Oranmore, occurred on Dec. 16, at his home, to the great grief of his family and friends. Solemn Requiem services were held and were numerously attended, as was the funeral.

Michael Conroy, farmer, who resided at Ballyloughnane, two miles from Galway, died suddenly recently. The deceased had been at Oranmore the previous day and returned to his home in usual health. At supper he complained of a pain in his side. He went to bed and felt some relief. He soon fell into a quiet doze, and when visited by members of his family at one o'clock on Saturday morning he was sleeping, but seemed to be then suffering as he was raving. Thinking that all would be right, the household retired to rest, but when in the morning a member went to see how he was he was dead.

LEITRIM.

A meeting of the members of the Ballinamore branch of the United Irish League was held on Sunday, Dec. 23. Bernard Kean presided.

MAYO

Mrs. McNeela, Castlebar, died Dec. 18, at the fine old age of 83 years. She was the wife of the late Mr Dermod McNeela, and one of the judges of Ballyhaunis. The remains were interred in the Old Church Cemetery, followed by a very large and respectable funeral cortege. The chief mourners were: Mr. Patrick McNeela, Castlebar; Mr. R. J. McNeela, Swinford (sons); Miss M. Neela, N. T., Park; Miss Mary Mc Neela, Castlebar (daughters) and many other relatives.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Thos. V. Flanagan, which happened Dec. 22, after a long illness. Deceased was the son of the late Mr. Patrick Flanagan, of Ballina, and brother of Mr. John Flanagan, and was a youth of much promise. The remains were taken to the Cathedral on Saturday, where a Requiem Mass was celebrated, the interment taking place from there on Sunday. The procession from the Cathedral was headed by the Bishop, accompanied by Father Gallagher, Adm., Father Colleran, Adm., and other clergymen. The funeral was very large and representative of all classes and creeds in the town and district.

On Dec. 23 the members of the Achill Gaelic League, held a meeting in the Monastery. Rev. J. P. Connolly, P. P., presiding. Present: A. Murphy, P. Mulloy, Keel; P. Mulloy, Dooniver; P. McLoughlin, James Murphy, Sauls, etc. Proposed by A. Murphy, seconded by P. Mulloy, Keel, "That we express our sorrow to Father O'Toole, the patriotic Parish Priest of Kilmeena, for the great loss he has sustained in the death of his mother, Mrs. O'Toole." Proposed by P. McLoughlin, seconded by P. Mulloy, Dooniver. "That we regret the sentence passed on John O'Donnell, organizer of the United Irish League, and express our sympathy, and condemn the action of the magistrates."—A. Murphy, sec.

At recent meeting of the members of the Mayo Abbey branch of the United Irish League, Dec. 17. Mr. John Hughes present, in the chair, P. Forde, treasurer, and Mr. P. Murphy, sec., Thomas Larkin, Michael Prendergast, John Monahan and Edward Godwin, were elected delegates to the South Mayo executive for the coming year.

ROSCOMMON

Recent deaths in Roscommon—Dec. 21, 1899, at Chimney Park, Kilteevan, Roscommon, Mrs. Ellen Gately, widow of Mr. Martin Gately, mother of the Very Rev. Roscommon—Dec 21, 1899, at Chimney Park, Kilteevan Church, two miles north of Knockcroghery, on the road to Lanesboro; interment in Kilteevan Graveyard; funeral largely attended. Dec. 27, at Pallasriblin, Mallow, Charley McDougall, of Abbeytown, Boyle, aged 15 years. Dec. 18, 1899, Sister Mary Vincent Cox, St. Mary's Convent of Mercy, Limerick, third daughter of the late William Cox, Thistle Cottage, Frenchpark, County Roscommon, in the 42d year of her age and 20th of her religious profession. Dec. 22, 1899, Tulsk, the residence of his brother, Timothy Lavan, Telphin, aged 18 years.

SLIGO

A new post office will soon be erected in Sligo. The estimated cost is fifty thousand dollars. It will give much needed employment to the tradesmen of the town.

The people of Aclare were much grieved at the deaths of two young persons named Miss B. Martin, aged 23, and her brother Bernard, aged 18 years. Miss Martin died on Dec. 16 and the brother a day after.

The death of Miss Mary Ellen McMorrow, Killargue, happened Dec. 11. She was the daughter of Mr. Andrew McMorrow, Carrickohill. The funeral was numerously attended.

At the meeting of the members of the Sligo County Council, in the Sligo Town Hall, Dec. 17, Mr. John O'Dowd presided.

LEINSTER.

CARLOW

A meeting of members of the Carlow evicted tenants was held in the Town Hall, Carlow, Dec. 2. President: John Redmond, M. P. and Charles J. Kickham, M. P. Some arrangements were made in connection with the [illegible] January.

[illegible] Daly, [illegible]

people of the district lost a worthy and most highly esteemed neighbor and friend. She was known through a wide area as a representative of the patriarchal mother of many sons, who regarded home as the first place in their affection. Of these she has given two to the church and one to medicine. Dr. Jeremiah Maher, Oakland, Cal.; Father William Maher, now of Myshall, was a hard fighter in the agrarian war of fifteen years ago; and Father John's name is linked with the gallant defense of Luggacurran, where he still lives among the faithful stalwarts who have done so much to reduce the citadel of Irish landlordism. Mr Patrick Maher, another son, is D. C. for his division, Pagnalstown.

At a recent meeting of the members of the Gaelic League branch of Carlow, Rev. John Cullen, presiding, on the motion of Mr. M. Governey, seconded by Mr James Byrne, a vote of thanks was passed to the Christian Brothers for the efforts they are making to spread a knowledge of the Irish language. The teaching of the Irish in the Christian Brothers' schools, and the resolutions in favor of bilingual education, passed at local boards at the instance of the branch, were also pointed to, as well as other matters which point to the success of the movement in Carlow.

DUBLIN

Mr. John Carrick, Baldoyle, recently sued Mr. Kevin O'Toole, builder, of 139 Upper Dorset street Dublin, for the loss of two fingers and other injuries sustained in September while working. He was awarded only $150 and cost.

Recent deaths in Dublin

FLYNN—Dec. 22, 1899, at Havelock square, Mary Anne Flynn.

O'NEILL—Dec. 20, 1899, at 3 Charlemont street, Dublin, Peter O'Neill, aged 24 years (member of the Brick and Stone Layers' Society).

KINSELLA—Dec. 27, 1899, at 21 Cornmarket, Mary Kinsella.

LAMB—Dec. 27, 1899, at Balcurin, Skerries, Mary Lamb.

RAFFERTY—Dec. 28, 1899, aged 39 years, at 153 North Kink street, Dublin, Richard Rafferty.

BROWNE—Dec 24, 1899 at Kinsealy St. Doloughs, William Browne, aged 86 years.

CLIFFORD—Dec. 24, 1899, at Our Lady's Hospice for the Dying, Patrick, only surviving son of Catherine and the late John Clifford, formerly of Manor street, and of 184 North King street.

KEARNS—Dec. 29, 1899, at Kearns' Place, Old Kilmainham, Mary Anne Kearns.

M'DONNELL—Dec. 18, at 61 Power Court, Patrick John McDonnell, aged 23 years.

LEAVY—Dec 29, 1899, at Castle Nugent, Elizabeth Leavy, Muckerstall, in her 86th year.

CLARKE—Dec. 29, 1899 at Convent Lodge, Glasnevin, Michael Clarke.

EGAN—Dec. 23, 1899, Thomas Egan, of 8 St. Joseph's road.

M'KINLEY—Dec. 26, 1899 (St. Stephen's Day), at 2 Granite terrace, Inchicore, Margaret McKinley, aged 70 years.

MURRAY—Dec. 17, 1899, at Mill street, Monaghan, James Murray, in 94th year of his age.

ROCHE—Dec. 23, 1899, at 5 Adelaide road, Glasthule, Kingstown, Elizabeth Roche, 6 Glasthule.

CASS—Dec. 25, 1899, at Fairview, Martin Cass.

O'DOWD—Dec. 23, at 8 Lower Sherrard street, Rosanna O'Dowd.

DELANY—On Christmas Eve at 79 Northumberland road, James Delany, aged 60 years.

BARTLEY—Dec. 25, 1899, at Cronestown, Ashbourne, Peter Bartley, aged 82 years.

KILDARE

Mr. John Horan, formerly of Glenmore, died Dec. 28, in Rathfarnham. The funeral to Burrage Cemetery was numerously attended.

The college of Maynooth has claims on every Catholic in Ireland. For over a century it has educated and trained the vast majority of her priesthood, and furnished her venerated hierarchy with most of its members. It is in truth a seat of learning where have flocked the young Levites of the Land. The president of Maynooth College, Right Rev. Mgr. Gargan, recently went to Cork to appeal to its citizens to aid him to complete St. Patrick's capacious and already beautiful new college chapel. He preached in St. Vincent's Church, and the response was very generous.

KILKENNY

Miss Mary Anne Burke of Kilkenny, was professed a religious of the Franciscan Order on Dec. 21, in the St. Clare's Convent, Nottingham, England. Title, Sister Rose.

The farmers in and around the town of Rathdowney held a meeting on Dec 19 to promote a scheme to drain the lands extending along and adjacent to the rivers Eskend and Goul, and to constitute a drainage district, in pursuance of the provisions of the drainage and improvement of land (Ireland) act, 1863, and the acts amending same. It is a most important move and will be carefully weighed before definite action be taken.

KINGS

Mr. Love, postmaster of Tullamore, has resigned, after twenty years' service. A beautiful address and testimonial were given him on the occasion by the people of Tullamore.

Mr. James Hoolihan has been appointed Petty Sessions Clerk of Tullamore Petty Sessions Court. Major Thackeray, magistrate, presided at the meeting when the appointment was made.

County Inspector Mills, of Tullamore, resides in the military baracks, and imagines that the fact justifies him in refusing to pay rates. The County Council will not accept Mr. Mills as an expounder of law, even though he be a county inspector, and legal proceedings will speedily convince him that the old order has been killed, that the making and putting in force of the local laws is now in the hands of the people and they are determined that no British official will evade their law or his duty to them.

Members of the Edenderry branch of the Gaelic League held a meeting in the Male National School on Dec. 17, under the chairmanship of Rev. J. Kinsella, president.

LONGFORD

The death of Mr. William Gaffney, of Dublin street, Longford, which happened on Dec. 9, caused deep and widespread regret among his friends in Ireland and in the United States.

LOUTH

A serious accident occurred to a girl named Kelly, working in the Boyne Weaving Factory, on Dec. 19. Some of the machinery got disarranged, and in falling struck her, inflicting serious injuries. The poor girl, who is a deaf mute, was attended by priest and doctor, and afterwards conveyed to her residence. Two other girls were slightly injured.

William Roddy, farmer, who lived in Upper Merches, near Dundalk, has been arrested for causing the death of his wife Rosanna Roddy, whilst in a condition of insanity. He had been in the Insane Asylum on two previous occasions. Mrs. Roddy was found dead on Dec. 31.

The Treasurer of St. Vincent de Paul Society, William Fannon 2 West street, Drogheda, does acknowledge with thanks the receipt of £5 toward the funds of the society from Mrs. Chas M'Cabe, The Presentation Nuns, Fair street, Drogheda, gratefully acknowledge the receipt of £5 from Mrs. M'Cabe, Prestonlodge, for the benefit of the children attending the schools.

An entertainment consisting of a cinematographic and magic lantern display was given by the Very Rev. J. Curry, P. P. V. F., St. Mary's, Drogheda, Dec. 20 to the children attending the schools. The services of a distinguished Dublin professor were obtained and the pictures of humorous and interesting nature were watched with the keenest interest and appreciation.

MEATH

Died—December 21, 1899, at Athlumney, Navan, John Rice, at an advanced age. December 16, 1899, at Retain, Navan, James Brennan.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Luke Smith, Navan, which took place on Dec 16, to the deep regret of his family and friends. Many who knew him in the old land and who are now in the United States will learn of his demise with regret.

On the 16th December Catherine Traynor, a widow, was evicted from her little place near Wilkinstown. The plaintiff in the suit which has culminated in Mrs. Traynor being thrown upon the roadside was her brother. A good deal of sympathy is felt for this latest evicted tenant, whose Christmas was rendered dreary by the cruel position in which she was placed in by her brother.

QUEENS

Lord Ashbrook was Deputy Lieutenant for Queen's County in 1894. His residence is Durrow Castle, Durrow. He holds five thousand acres of land, robbed from the O'Mores.

The Queen's County is divided into eleven baronies named: Ballyadams, Claondonagh, Clamalliagh, Cullenagh, Maryborough (West and East), Portnahinch, Slievemarry, Stradbally, Tumahinch and Upperwoods.

WESTMEATH

Lord Longford and Sir. Walter Nugent have volunteered for service in the section of the Imperial Yeomanry formed from among Irish hunting men. The will get a hot welcome from the Boers.

WEXFORD

Miss Ellen Howlett of Wexford, Sister Edith, of the Franciscan Missionary Sister, was professed, Dec. 21, in St. Clare's Convent of the Order, Nottingham, England.

In the Presentation Convent, Wexford, Dec. 29, Sister M. Gabriel Cowman passed away. She was the daughter of Mr. Andrew Cowman, Sparrowland, Bree. Two years ago she was professed. At the time of her death she had been in the order three years.

The death occurred on December 22 at Chilcomb, New Ross of Mrs. Boyd, wife of Mr. Thomas Boyd, solicitor, clerk to the Crown and Peace, Tipperary. Deceased was 77 years of age. The funeral took place Dec. 26 to St. Mary's New Ross. Deceased's husband, Thomas Boyd, was very unpopular, and some years ago he was shot at and missed as he drove along the road in Shambogh. A member of his family was killed in mistake.

We regret to record the death of Mrs. Margaret Roche, Ballindraggin at her residence, on Dec. 14, aged 69 years. Her remains were interred in Ballindraggin, where the Requiem Office and Solemn High Mass were offered for the repose of her soul.

Many Wexford men will regret to learn of the death on Dec. 22 last of Brother Jerome J. Murphy, at the Christian Brothers' Monastery, Cork, aged 69 years. Brother Murphy, who was a most accomplished scholar, was Superior of the Wexford Monastery ten years ago, and effected many improvements in the schools. On Christmas eve his remains were interred in the little cemetery attached to the monastery. Mass was celebrated by Bishop O'Callaghan, assisted by the Rev. J. O'Regan, St. Finbar's Seminary, Rev. C. M. O'Brien, S. S. Peter and Paul's; Father d'Arcy, C. M.; Rev. Father Francis, O. S. F. C., and Rev. Father Barrett, O. P., also attended. Besides the members of the community there were present also: Rev. Brother Connolly, Rev. Brother J. Costello and Rev. Brother J. Curtin, of the Presentation Community; Rev. Brother L. O'Neill, North Richmond, Dublin; Rev. Brother M. Sheedy, Mitchelstown; Rev. Brother J. Banks, Fermoy; Rev. Brother J. Prenderville, Charleville; Rev. Brother A. Mulha, Doneraile, and Rev. Brother B. Healy, Mitchelstown.

Died.—Dec. 21, 1899, at 13 Killarney Parade, Christina Mulhall, Wicklow. Dec. 10, at Fitzwilliam square, Wicklow, Michael Rooney, in his 80th year. As John Barlow, Jas. Quinn and Arthur Barlow, of Wicklow, were preparing to put out to fish, they observed a dark object floating on the river close to the north side of the quay, and found the body of a woman. One of the fishermen said it was the remains of Rose Ubanns, an old resident of the town. The body was conveyed to the house of her daughter. Subsequently an inquest was held, and a verdict of "Found Drowned" was delivered.

MUNSTER.

CLARE.

The death of Mr. Patrick McCarthy of Uggon, Tulla, occurred on Dec. 21. He was an active member of the Tulla District Council. Great sympathy was expressed by the people of the surrounding districts for Mrs. McCarthy and her six children.

On Dec. 21, Foley, McInerney and Barrett, fishermen, had a miraculous escape from drowning at Newtown West. They were fishing, when the canoe upset by a tidal wave and the men thrown into the sea. A portion of the nets got entangled in the legs of the fishermen, but Foley was successful in clearing such a dangerous obstruction, and the three men made for the shore, some 250 yards distant, and with the greatest difficulty, encumbered as they were by heavy clothing and buffeted by a heavy sea and strong wind reached land in a most exhausted condition.

A [illegible] convened meeting of the Manchester Martyrs' Memorial Committee of Ennis held Dec 23, in the National Club rooms, Bank place, Mr O'Brien, Town Councillor, presided.

CORK

On Dec 31 the funeral of late Mr. Thomas Kelly, Skehanore Ballydehob, took place to Aughadown and was numerously attended. His death on the 29th was deeply and widely regretted.

William Fuller of the British Sappers and Miners, was killed in the battle at Colenso, South Africa. He was only 23 years old, and a native of Kinsale. Three years ago he joined the British army, instead of staying at home and working at his trade. He was a saddler.

On Christmas night the Cary's Lane entrance to Sts Peter and Paul's Church Cork, was forced open and £24 16s 1d, which had been placed in a desk in the sacristy, stolen. From the manner in which the desk containing the money was forced open, it is believed that a person or persons possessing intimate knowledge of the interior of the sacred edifice must have committed the robbery.

On Sunday, Dec 24 the remains of the Rev Bro Jerome Murphy were laid to rest in the little cemetery in the grounds of the North Monastery, Cork. Mass was celebrated at eight o'clock by Rt Rev Dr O'Callaghan assisted by the Rev. J. O'Regan, St. Finbar's Seminary. The Rev C. M. O'Brien, Sts Peter and Paul's the Rev Fr d'Arcy, C M; Rev. Fr Francis, O. S. F. C and Rev Fr Barrett O P., also attended. Besides the members of the community there were present Rev. Bro Connolly, Rev Bro J. Costello, and Rev Bro J. Curtin of the Presentation Community; Rev Bro L O'Neill North Richmond, Dublin; Rev. Bro. M. Sheedy, Mitchelstown; Rev. Bro. J. Banks, Fermoy; Rev. Bro. J. Prenderville, Charleville; Rev. Bro. A. Mulhall, Doneraile, and Rev. Bro. B. Healy, Mitchelstown.

At recent meeting of the Mallow Branch of the United Irish League, Mr. John Higgins, Chairman of the Trade and Labor Association, presided.

A public meeting was held Dec. 22 at the Lancasterian Schools, Great George's street, Cork city, to inaugurate a women's class in connection with the Cork Branch of the Gaelic League. Rev. Father Quigley, O. P., Prior, St. Mary's presided. Rev. President said the people of Ireland should demand that their language be taught in the National Schools. The Mayor said there could not be an Irish nation without the Irish language.

Recent Deaths in Cork.

FAHY—On Dec. 21, at Cloghroe, Sarah Fahy.

McDONAGH—At 4 College road, on Dec 22, Michael McDonagh, aged 67 years.

MAGRATH—On Dec. 23, 1899, at 19 Grand Parade, Cork, William Magrath, aged 76 years.

KIELY—On Dec. 22, at 17 Douglass street, Kate Kiely, Blarney.

RYAN—On Dec. 22, at 74 Gardner's Hill, Mary Ryan.

DINAN—On Dec. 21, 1899, at 39 Lough road, Norah Dinan.

COUGHLAN—On Dec. 22, at 55 Dominick street, Daniel Coughlan (late employee of Mr. John Sisk, builder).

DENNEHY—On Dec. 22, Mary Ellen Dennehy, 17 Coburg street, Cork, aged 23 years.

O'DONNELL—On Dec. 22, at 16 Western road, George J. O'Donnell.

DUNLEA—At 47 Leitrim street, William Dunlea, Grand Parade Market.

FLAVIN—Dec. 28, at 3 Needham place, Catherine Flavin, of Ring, Clonakilty.

DOWNEY—On Dec 29, at 1 Rockwell Terrace, Pope's Road, Gerald Downey.

McCARTHY—On Dec 27, at Buckingham place, Mary McCarthy, daughter of the late Denis Daly, of Evergreen.

EGAN—Dec. 28, at No. 80 Bandon road, Eugene Egan.

BARTER—Dec. 27, at St. James' Villas, Western Road, Cork, Joseph Bartler, Sr., aged 64 years.

TREACY—On Dec. 27, at Kilmap House, Sarah Treacy.

FOLEY—At Pump lane Catherine Foley.

DEE—On Dec. 27, at Muskerry Villa, Western Road, Jame Dee.

MURPHY—At Sandymount, on Dec. 27, Susan Kate Murphy.

O'CALLAGHAN—On Dec. 28, at Linden Lodge, Friars' Walk, Julia O'Callaghan.

MURPHY—On Dec. 27, at the Mercy Hospital, Margaret Murphy, late of Crookstown.

JOHNSTON—Dec. 29, at 30 Mary street, Mary Anne Johnson.

KERRY

With regret we chronicle the death of Miss Kate O'Keeffe, Rock street, Tralee, Dec. 21. Deceased was daughter of Mr. P. O'Keeffe, and sister to Messrs. John and Jeremiah O'Keeffe. The funeral for Clogherbrien on Friday was very largely attended.

A storm of considerable severity was experienced in and around Tralee Dec. 20. In the country districts trees were blown down, and much damage was done around the coast. Telegraph posts were torn down near Ardfert, and many of the trains were late reaching Tralee. The electric staff system on the Great Southern and Western Line between Mallow and Tralee, got disorganized, and caused considerable delay to trains.

LIMERICK

Mr. Patrick Dowling, an employee of the Waterford and Limerick Railway, was run down by the mail train from Ennis in the Limerick yard, Dec. 22, and his two legs were severed from the body. He was removed to Barrington's Hospital, where he died soon after.

The rules which govern the relations between landlord and tenant were altered on Dec. 20, when Mr Michael Murphy, one of the O'Grady evicted tenants, recently appointed poor rate collector for the Abbeyfeale division visited the O'Grady evicted farms and, in default of £8 18s. 4d. for poor rates, seized on a horse and some cattle, the property of the landlord, Mr S. O'Grady, and impounded same in Abbeyfeale.

Michael O'Brien, District Councillor presided at a meeting of the Ballyoran branch of the Land and Labor Association, held Dec. 17. A resolution was adopted which condemned the arbitrary and high-handed action of the Lord Chancellor in depriving of the Commission of the Peace two active workers on behalf of labor in the persons of the Right Hon. Lord Emly and Kendal E. O'Brien.

TIPPERARY

The mother of one of the foolish men of Tipperary going to fight for Victoria against the Boers, when parting from her son at the railway station, Carrick-on-Suir, gave him this heroic last warning: "Don't forget to shoot high and never think of killing the brave Boers." God spare that patriotic mother.

The death of Rev. Daniel Day, C. C., Terryglass, occurred in Dublin, Dec. 31, to the great sorrow of his people. The remains were conveyed to Roscrea, where Solemn Requiem services were held and numerously attended by priests and parishioners.

Mr K. E. O'Brien, who was deprived of the commission of the peace by the Lord Chancellor of Ireland for expressing sympathy with the Boers, has been re-elected chairman of the Tipperary District Council which he resigned to test the action of the Lord Chancellor.

Members of the Clonoulty Branch of the United Irish League held a meeting on Dec. 24, Mr. Cornelius O'Dwyer in the chair. The constitution and rules of the United Irish League were approved of.

With regret we record the death of Mr James Ryan, Ballypadeen, near Cashel, which occurred on Dec. 23, 1899. Deceased had attained the wonderful age of 112 years. He was in the best of health up to the very day of his death, and had the use of all his faculties. It was pleasing to hear him often recite incidents of his early life. He was an extensive farmer. The funeral to Hoar Abbey was one of the largest ever seen in Cashel.

WATERFORD

On Dec. 20, after a brief illness, Mr. James Tighe, chief engineer of the Waterford, Limerick and Western Railway, passed away at the fine old age of 84 years. He was fifty-four years connected with the Waterford and Limerick Railway Company. No kindlier or more considerate and warm-hearted men ever lived, and by young and old in the service of the railway company he was held in affectionate regard.

The fine edifice, St. Carthage Church Lismore, has undergone great changes and improvements, which add to the beauty of the fine architectural proportions and harmony. The noble monument to the memory of the late Right Rev. Mgr. Byrne, erected during his pastorate, being designed by M. Doolin, architect is regarded a triumph of ecclesiastical architecture. The total length of the church is 145 feet, by 84 feet in width across the transepts, with a nave arch close upon 60 feet high. The fine tower, seen for miles, and of which the Lismore people are justly proud, is 113 feet high.

ULSTER.

ANTRIM

On Dec. 31, in the Chapel of St. Malachy's College, Belfast, Most Rev. Dr. Henry, Bishop of Down and Connor, raised to the dignity of the priesthood Rev. H. Murphy, Rev. B. McNamee, and Rev. P. Rafferty.

The handsome church of Ballynafeigh was the scene of much religious devotion on Xmas Day and Xmas eve. The decorations were beautiful. At all the Masses on Christmas day the church was filled. Masses were celebrated at 6, 8, 10, 11 o'clock. Father Boylan celebrated 6 o'clock Mass, and preached an eloquent sermon. High Mass was celebrated at 11 o'clock celebrant, Father Green; deacon Very Rev. Crickard; sub-deacon, Father Boylan. Rev. Father Green preached a very impressive sermon.

On Sunday, Dec. 24, the remains of Mrs. John Laverty were removed from Knockmore House, Lisburn, for interment in the Holy Trinity Cemetery. She bore her illness with great patience, and on Friday nigh peacefully expired, having received he last rites of the Catholic Church.

ARMAGH.

Cardinal Logue recently visited Loughgilly parish in connection with the Cathedral bazaar, and addressed the congregations of Ballymoyers and Tullyherron, Carrick and Beleek, in Beleek Church. One hundred pounds sterling were contributed by the people.

CAVAN

Mr. Wm. Vance, late underagent to the Earl of Annesley, and an auctioneer in Cavan up to five years ago, was second in command of the Boer Army at Nicholson's Nek. Mr. Vance was a member of Kilmore Orange Lodge, but resigned the night Col Saunderson and Mr. J. G. Tallow were given several "degrees" over the heads of the other brethren. Mr. Vance for four years has been farming in the Transvaal. He is no longer an Orangeman, and this explains his present patriotic action.

Rev. T. P. O'Donohue, of Immaculate Conception parish, St. Louis, Mo., whose death was reported on Dec. 22, was born in Carrickalla, on Christmas Day, 1870; he received his primary education at the National School. He entered Cavan College in 1887. In 1891 he entered Carlow College and was there ordained in June 1896. He went to St. Louis in Oct. of the same year, and was appointed assistant at the Immaculate Conception Church. At a Solemn Requiem Mass, Rev. Stephen Brady, of Troy, Mo., paid an eloquent tribute to the qualities of the deceased. The absolution was given by his Grace Archbishop Kain. The Vicar-General of the diocese, Right Rev Mgr. H. Muehlsiephen, was also present, and eighty other clergymen.

At a recent meeting of the Bawnboy branch of the United Irish League Mr D Magauran presided, and P M'Entaggart, P. Kiernan, J. Magaheran, P Maguire, F. Reilly, P. Duffy, P Fanning, P. Dolan, P. McDermott, vice-president, John Pryor, secretary; C H Maguire, treasurer; T. Kiernan and others were present.

Christmas in Derry passed over in a quiet manner. At 6 a. m. in St Eugene's Cathedral a vast congregation attended Mass. The interior of the sacred edifice was appropriately adorned with evergreens, and in the glow of myriad lights looked beautiful. Three Masses were celebrated in succession, and afterward a great number received Holy Communion. Another large congregation was present at the 11 o'clock Mass, celebrated by Fr Laurence Hegarty, after which Benediction of the Most Holy Sacrament was given by Most Rev. Dr. O'Doherty, assisted by Rev. James O'Kane and Rev. L. Hegarty. At the Long Tower Church, which was decorated with much taste, the morning Masses, celebrated by Rev. Hugh McMenamin, Adm., Rev. Hugh Boyle and Rev William Doherty, were attended by vast congregations. At St. Colomb's Waterside, the parishioners attended the Christmas ceremonies in extremely large numbers. Masses were celebrated by Very Rev. Charles McFaul, Rev Joseph McKeetry, and Rev. Denis Quigley. The Waterside chapel and altars were very nicely decorated.

DONEGAL.

At the meeting to open the session 1899 1900 of the Ballyshannon Gaelic League, the committee was present. On motion of Mr. McGawley, seconded by Mr. McFadden, it was resolved, "That a vote of condolence be passed to the relatives of the late Father O'Growney, and, as their address was unknown, same be sent to the newspapers." The annual affiliation fee was ordered to be sent to the Executive Committee. A special meeting of the committee was held later.

DOWN

The dead body of Mrs. Susan Gibbon was found in the River Bann Dec. 21. Deceased was aged 80 years, and lived in Drumnascamph. Patrick Gibbon, son of the deceased, deposed that the deceased came over to his house. He left her over the bridge which crosses the River Bann, and down the road as far as the ford. He asked the deceased could she make the way all right herself, and she said that she could. Verdict—Found drowned.

In the old church of Lissummon, Newry, Christmas was celebrated with more than usual religious fervor. The decoration of the sanctuary was on an exceptional scale, and presented a most pleasing appearance. To Mrs. McDonnell and Miss Patricia McDonnell are due the credit for the decorations. Rev. Charles McDonnell celebrated both Masses, at which large congregations were present. The following programme of music was performed by the choir under Mrs. McDonnell, organist: Mozart's Twelfth Mass, "Adeste Fideles" (trio) and "Angles we have heard on high." The following ladies and gentlemen assisted: The Misses Devlin, McDonnell and Savage; Messrs Carty and McManus.

The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Convent School, Catherine street, Newry, took place Dec. 29. The procedings were held in the schoolroom, and were witnessed by a large company of relatives and friends of the pupils and nuns.

MONAGHAN

Miss Bridget McGuinness and Miss Ellen McGuinness (Sisters Colette and Bonaventure), were given the habit of the Order of St. Francis on Dec. 21, in St. Clare's Convent, Nottingham, England. Both are natives of Carrickmacross.

A largely attended meeting of the committee of Clones Gaelic League was held in the National school lately. Arrangements were made for holding the classes each evening during the Winter, and for securing a good attendance of pupils. These classes will be held in the Male National School every evening, except Sunday, from six to eight o'clock; male and female classes on alternative evenings. On the motion of Mr. Henry Murphy, solicitor, it was unanimously decided to ask Dr. Douglas Hyde to deliver his lecture in the Town Hall as soon after Christmas as convenient.

On Dec. 22 a very interesting ceremony took place in St. Louis' Convent, Monaghan, the occasion being a grand vocal and instrumental concert, given by the young ladies of the boarding schools, and the distribution of prizes by Most Rev. Dr. Owens, Bishop of the diocese. One of the Sisters of the Convent announced that the exhibitions, prizes and medal, value for £300, awarded by the Intermediate Board in September, were distributed by His Lordship on Nov. 3, and that the prizes on the present occasion were given for good conduct and subjects not included in the intermediate lists.

TYRONE.

The United Irish League is making great progress in this county. The priests are taking their stand as leaders of the people in the struggle of "The Land for the People."