

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.—The Tuam Herald, Sept. 21, stated: "On the 16th instant Mr. Michael C. Shine, auctioneer, sold by auction on the premises, two miles from Athlery, the interest in the house and lands of Wilmount, held under lease for 999 years subject to a head rent. The bidding lay between Mr. Martin McDonnell, of Dunmore and Roscommon, acting for Mr. James McDonnell, Tuam, and Mr. L. E. O'Dea of Tuam. Mr. McDonnell was declared purchaser for the sum of £1,240. He has purchased 37,000 acres of land, and appears as keen about its value as when he made his first purchase. The Congested Districts Board is not doing much for the people, or a single member of a community in County Galway would not be permitted to gather to himself thirty-seven thousand acres of land, where thousands are solely in need of it to keep body and soul together. A special meeting of the members of the Tuam branch of the Gaelic League was held in the town hall, Tuam, September 17, Rev. J. McDermott, president of the branch, presiding. Eyecourt was on foot on Sunday, Sept. 15, the occasion being the introduction of the Sisters of Mercy. The people, headed by their pastor, Rev. Father Leahy, went out after last Mass in processional order and met the nuns at Redmount hall, and escorted them into the village, the band of the Temperance Society, Ballinasloe, playing. A new house has been built for the nuns, who are to take charge of the Female National School. The Rt. Rev. Mgr. Madden, Tynagh, in the absence of the Most Rev. R. Leahy, installed the nuns and addressed the parishioners in the evening. There was a grand display of fireworks, followed by an address by the Rev. Father Leahy and Rev. Father O'Reilly, Bannagher. There were quite a number of clergymen present, among whom were Father Nohilly, Lismagh; Father Ryan, Father McDonagh; Father Johnson and Father Corcoran.

LEITRIM.—Mr. John O'Donnell, M.P., has been re-elected Chairman of the Leitrim County Council for the ensuing year, and Mr. Patrick Maguire, vice-president. Both are United Irish Leaguers and the right men in the right place. MAYO.—On Sept 16 John Cunningham, who lived near Claremorris, met with a tragic end. He was going into Claremorris on a message for his mother, and was overtaken by another boy driving a mule and cart, and, having got a riding on the cart, the other boy gave him the reins to drive. It is thought that one of the wheels went over a large stone and Cunningham was thrown in front of the cart, the wheel passing over his head. Death ensued a few hours. He was the only support of his mother a widow. The ceremony of profession took place at the Convent of Mercy of the Holy Name, Tuam, Sept. 3. Miss Annie O'Donnell (in religion Sister M. Evangelist), daughter of Mr. Myles O'Donnell, Craiga House, Balla, had the happiness of making religious vows. The ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Tuam, assisted by Rev. J. McDermott, Adm., and Rev. W. McHugh. A meeting of the members of the Ballyhaunis Gaelic League was held Sept. 11, Mr. M. Fahy, N.T., presiding. The chairman explained the object for which it was convened and said that the local talent he was certain the Ballyhaunis concert, which would be held soon, would be a great success. A large meeting, under the auspices of the United Irish League, was held in Carter's Square, Belmullet, Sept. 16. The Belmullet Fife and Drum Band paraded the streets before the meeting. The platform was erected outside the Royal Hotel. Mr. James Mills was moved to the chair amid applause. Mother Mary Aloysius Joseph, of the Sisters of Mercy, Mount St. Mary's, Westport, departed this life in her 65 year on Sept. 17. She was a native of County Meath, and niece of the Cardinal Cullen, and of Mother Paul Cullen, foundress of the Convent of Mercy, Westport, who is still in good health. Mother Aloysius entered the convent in 1853, and professed two years later. She was in the 48th year of her profession. On Thursday morning Solemn High Mass was offered up in convent chapel, at which officiated: Rev. O. Kearney, Kildare Diocese (nephew of deceased); Rev. M. McCarty, Westport, deacon; Rev. M. Hannan, Westport, sub-deacon, and Rev. M. McDonald, Adm., Westport, master of ceremonies.

ROSCOMMON.—Mr. Michael Fitzpatrick of Dublin, erected another stained-glass window in the Stokesstown Catholic Church. The window is in memory of the late mission in Stokesstown. At the meeting of Pallyouther and Kilmacraugh branch, held on Sunday, Sept. 15, the chairman, Mr. J. Murray, presided. Other present: J. Kelly, vice-president; G. Higgins, treasurer; J. Shannon; M. Brennan; P. Beirne; J. Beirne; B. Harrington; T. Flanagan; M. Kelly; B. Deamer. After the distribution of 100 cards of membership the chairman expressed the hope that they would be able to give a good account of their proceedings, and that they would be able to help the League.

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having forwarded to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland a program of the subjects in which it is advisable instruction should be given in the Kingston Technical Schools, a letter from that body was read. It declares that Irish must not be taught, though the South Kensington Board of Education placed it among the subjects proved of.

RECENT DEATHS IN DUBLIN. MAGUIRE—Sept. 17, at the Carmelite Convent, Deighan, Mother Mary of the Sacred Heart (Maguire), aged 83 years; in religion, 57 years. MAHER—On Sept. 18, at No. 5 Block, Pile's Buildings, John William Maher, aged 73 years. MASON—Sept. 16, at Kilmacrogue House, Bernard Mason, aged 48 years. LANDY—On Sept. 16, at Rush, Margaret Landy, in her 57th year. COLLINS—Sept. 13, at 79 Wear street, Bath road, Bristol, England, John Collins (late Collins & Granam, New row, Dublin). KEARNEY—Sept. 7 at Jarvis Street Hospital, James Kearney, Maynooth, for 30 years in the employ of the Dublin General Steam Shipping Company. McEVoy—Sept. 9, at 11 Spencer street, Michael McEvoy, aged 66 years. CLEAR—Sept. 19, at Lower George's street, Kingstown, William Clear, aged 44 years, formerly of Coolcutien, County Kilkenny. HEALY—Sept. 20, at Brittas, Peter Healy, aged 84 years. RYAN—Sept. 10, at Monastery House Enniskerry, Annie Isobel Ryan, late of Lizzie Ville, Dalkey, daughter of James Ryan, South Circular road, Dublin. MURPHY—Sept. 19, at Cork Street Hospital, Anne Murphy, wife of Stephen Murphy, 4 Cornmarket. COMERFORD—Sept. 18, at Bolton street, Mary Comerford, aged 36 years. HALL—Sept. 18, at the Mater Hospital, Thomas P. Hall, late of Esker, Luccan. BRADY—Sept. 19, at 4 Church street North Wall, Laurence Brady. BARRY—On Sept. 15, at Tanner's Water, Balbriggan, James Barry. LONG—Sept. 10, at 12 Lower Mount Pleasant avenue, Mary Jane Long, late teacher of Whitefriar Street Female National School. MURKHAUGH—Sept. 14, at 16 Clarendon street, William Murkhaugh. TIERNAN—Sept. 12, in religion Sister Cary Claudia (the Poor Servants of the Mother of God), Anne Tierney, Lombard street. KILDARE.—The funeral of late Mr. James Elmes, Stackallen Navan, took place to Hill of Slane, on Sept. 11, and was very largely attended. James Smyth, army Pensioner, of New Row, Nans, employed in the Nass Military Pay Office, died suddenly on Monday, Sept. 16. Sunday evening he attended devotions in the Church of Our Lady and Saint David in usual health. The dead body of John Cullen, aged 38 years farmer, who resided at Whitesland, Kildare, was found in a pool of water near the town of Kildare on Sept 13. The name of the pool is Loughenee and is beside the road and unfenced. KILKENNY.—A representative meeting of the inhabitants of Thomastown and districts was held at Thomastown Sept. 19, for the purpose of condemning the action of the Board of Guardians, who passed a resolution reflecting on the nursing Sisters of St. John of God because the Superiors of the Kilkenny Convent refused to send a Sister to Thomastown Fever Hospital on the ground of the neglect of the guardians to put the building into sanitary repair. The new church of St. Keeran, Clonsilla, which is rapidly nearing completion, will be dedicated on 13th inst. by Rt. Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ossory. Both the Bishop of Ossory and the Bishop of Killaloe were lately guests of the Pastor of Clonsilla—Father Phelan—and they admired the sacred edifice very much. Five Bishops will attend the Dedication ceremony. As a sign of his great love for the parish, and of the work which the priests and people have accomplished, the Bishop of Ossory has presented the new church a very valuable chalice and splendid set of vestments. The chalice is of pure gold, thirteen inches high, the goblet portion being surrounded by an extremely artistic piece of carving of the Last Supper. The foot supports four figures, symbolizing the four doctors of the Church, St. Augustine, St. Gregory, St. Ambrose, and St. Jerome, and at the base there are beautiful carving and tracery. The chalice bears the inscription: "Abraham Episcopus Oessorienis, tanquam praeceptum amoris signum erga matrem, Ecclesiam Oessorienensem Sancti Kieran, Die 13 October, 1901." The following is the translation: "Abraham, Bishop of Ossory, as a sign of his great love, presents this chalice to the mother church of Ossory." The vestments are of gold, beautifully embroidered, and were purchased for and used at his own consecration. On the vestment is the following inscription: "Presented by the Most Rev. Dr. Browne to the parish of Selr Keeran's, the mother church of Ossory, on the day of the consecration of its new church, 13th October, A. D. 1901." Among the many articles which are still wanting to make the new church complete are the Stations of the Cross, gates, benches prie-dieu vestment press, cruets, candlesticks, altar charts. Father Phelan, in addition to having incurred a very heavy debt for the church building proper, has assumed personal responsibility for the altar, porch, heating apparatus, and other costly accessories which are now, or will be in place by the date of the consecration ceremony.

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The committee of the Edenderry branch of the United Irish League held a meeting on Sept. 15. Rev. John Kittella, the president, in the chair. Present: D. Shiel, treasurer; Andrew Byrne, Owen Murray, and M. Costello, hon. secretary. A list of members enrolled was submitted by the secretary. Persons desirous of joining the branch were requested to do so at once. When it became known in Banagher, Sept. 19, that Most Rev. Dr. Hoare, Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise, had offered the pastorage of Shannon-bridge to the Rev. Thomas O'Reilly, C.C., and that the latter had accepted, feelings of regret for his departure, mingled with pleasure for his promotion, were manifest. Father O'Reilly has had charge of the Banagher section of St. Reynagh's parish. During his time education and religion flourished in the parish, and the beautiful chapel of St. Reynagh's, Banagher, is a lasting tribute to his zeal. Over four thousand dollars were expended in the renovation of the chapel, and it is due to his energy and activity that this sum was raised. LONGFORD.—On Sept. 17 the marriage was solemnized at the Cathedral, Longford, when Mr. John Lyons, led to the altar Miss Farrell, Clonroagh. A great many persons attended the interesting ceremony. LOUTH.—The funeral of late Mr. Michael Collins, Shop street, Droghda, to Kisharvin Cemetery, Sept. 20, was very numerously attended. His demise was deeply regretted. NEATH.—The members of the Oliver Plunket Total Abstinence Society, Oldcastle, will hold an Irish concert, and no trouble has been spared to insure success. Thoroughly Irish artists will contribute native songs. Instrumental music, eight and four hand bells, jigs, etc. Died.—Sept. 9, at Ardcath, Ellen Moore, aged 90 years. At Kells, Peter Callaghan, aged 90 years. QUEEN'S.—Miss Mary Moore of Strabally, died in Harold's Cross Hospital, Dublin, on Sept. 15, deeply regretted. She was aged 25 years. The funeral of late Mr. Jonathan Higgins, of Main street, Portlinton, to Piergore Cemetery, on Sept. 19, was long and representative of all in the town and surrounding districts. On Sunday, Sept. 15, during Mass in Raheneash Chapel, near Strabally, Bryan Maher, residing at Grange, became weak and obliged to leave the church. Soon after going out he fell down dead. WESTMEATH.—Mrs. Bridget Duffry Monte, died Sept. 11, deeply regretted by her relatives and numerous circle of friends. WEXFORD.—A branch of the Gaelic League for ladies has been founded in Gorey. Mrs. Boyan, president; Miss Anne Byrne, Gorey Hill, treasurer, and Miss McCarthy and Miss S. Kehoe, hon. secretaries. In the Church of St. Peter's College, Wexford, on Sunday, Sept. 3, were ordained: Rev. John Murphy, Curracliole, Wexford; Rev. Andrew O'Brien of Poulpeasty, Toghmore; Rev. Denis Murphy, Miltown, Rathnure; and Rev. David Hore, Muirankin, Kilmore. Rt. Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns, officiated. There was a large number of the friends of the young priests present. Among the local clergy present were: Very Rev. N. T. Sheridan, president St. Peter's College, Wexford; Rev. W. Codd, S. P. C., Rev. P. King, Rec. J. Donovan, Rev. W. Harpur, Rec. T. O'Connor, St. Peter's College, Wexford; Rev. Patrick Doyle, Adm.; Rev. Patrick O'Connor, etc. On Sept. 16, at the Good Shepherd Convent, New Ross, the death took place of Sister Mary of St. Augustine. The deceased religious, who was only in her thirty-third year, was known in the world as Miss Maryanne Devereux, and was a native of Kilmidee. She was thirteen years a member of the Order, Solemn High Mass and Offices for the deceased lady was held in the church of the Convent, Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns, presided. Celebrant of the Mass, Rev. John Kenney, Kiltaly; deacon, Rev. J. W. O'Byrne, Wexford; sub-deacon, Rev. Aidan McCormack, New Ross; master of ceremonies, Rev. James Prandy, New Ross; chanters, Rev. D. Bolger, Rathgarogue; and Rev. Thomas Quigley, New Ross. WICKLOW.—The death of Mr. Peter Hanlon, of Blessington, occurred in St. Patrick, Dunn's Hospital, Dublin, Sept. 7. The funeral to Bursage Cemetery was numerously attended. A fire broke out at Carnew Castle, the residence of Lord Milton, M.P., situate in the village of Carnew, Sept. 15. Carnew is five miles from Shillalah, and adjacent to the latter town lives the Earl of Fitzwilliam, whose heir Lord Milton is, and he keeps a fire brigade at Coolatun Park. Immediately on the outbreak of the fire word was conveyed by telephone to Lord Fitzwilliam's place, and the fire appliances were at once sent on the road to Carnew. Very slight damage was done. MUNSTER.

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receiving many medals with clasps for China and the Indian Mutiny. Then his brother officers would have been much surprised if told that "Tony Butler" was to be their chaplain later on in the West Indies. Yet such an event was destined to pass. At thirty-five years of age, Captain Butler, having concluded his leave in Dublin, announced his intention of leaving the army and entering the Church. He wrote to his family from the Barracks at Portsmouth, stating that he was about to enter the Jesuit Novitiate at Roehampton. His mind was unalterably made up, and having entered the Society of Jesuits in 1886, he was ordained priest first went on the mission to Jamaica and returned to prosecute further theological studies near Ghent in Belgium. From 1877 to 1878 he was in charge of the Jesuit mission at Bedford-Leigh, Lancashire, and in '78 the Pope appointed him Bishop of Demerara and Vicar Apostolic of British Guiana, in succession to the late Dr. Etheridge. He was consecrated Bishop in the Cathedral, Brickham, Aug. 25, 1878, by the Most Rev. Dr. O'Garraill, O. P. and by a striking coincidence he died on the anniversary of his consecration, having been twenty years bishop. His career as bishop was one fraught with success to his diocese. Churches, convents, missions and schools multiplied under his sway. He interested himself especially in the cause of education, and the afflicted inmates of the Leper Hospital had his continual care. Not only his own flock but members of other religious persuasions held the bishop in the highest respect.

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A very large Nationalist meeting was held at Chappeltown in the island of Valentia, Sept. 15, when Mr. John P. Boland, M. P., addressed his constituents. Mr. Boland attended 12 o'clock Mass at Chappeltown. He arrived in Valentia from Glenbeigh previous evening. The Rev. John Casey, parish priest of Valentia, introduced Mr. Boland, who gave an account of how he