

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.

LEINSTER

CARLOW.—The death of Rev. James Delaney, pastor of Rosmalis, occurred Dec. 27, after a few hours' illness. A Patriotic Irishman, he took a leading part in the land and National movements. He was a good speaker, and his utterances were illuminated by flashes of genuine wit. A native of Carlowtown, he ministered as a curate in Kildare, Hackestown and Leighlinbridge, being promoted from the last mentioned to the pastorate of Rosmalis.

Father George J. Gowing, pastor, Tynryland, died Dec. 23, and was deeply and widely mourned. Only a month previous he preached at the Pontifical High Mass, commencing the devotions of the Quaran' Ore in the Cathedral, Carlow, on the invitation of his lordship the Bishop, and on the following day he helped in hearing confessions. Father Gowing was born at Kilmilly, Maryborough, Queen's County, where his only brother, Mr. F. Gowing, resides. Having prosecuted his ecclesiastical studies in St. Patrick's College, Carlow, he was ordained by late Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin. His mission included a brief stay at Luggacurran, Arles, Kill, Suncroft, and finally Emo, from which he was promoted to succeed, Rev. James Robinson, P. P., as parish priest of Tynryland.

DUBLIN.—On Sunday, Dec. 22, the parishioners of Rathdrum were afforded a rare musical treat on the opening of the new organ erected by Telford, Stephen's Green, Dublin. It was shown off to great advantage by the prelude played by Mr. W. H. Telford. The other pieces played by him were: "Intermezzo" (Tours), "Barcarolle" (Bennett), and "Grand March" from "Athalie" (Mendelssohn). The soloists were specially engaged for the occasion. Miss Renee Konrads rendered in a faultless manner and with great expression and feeling Gounod's "Ave Maria" and "O Divine Redeemer." Miss Eleanor Proctor (of Douglas) sang in a rich contralto "Abide with Me," Gordon's "Ave Verum," and "There is a Green Hill Far Away." Mr. Augustine Boylan sang very sweetly "Cujus Altissimus" (Stabat Mater), and "Les Rameaux." Mr. W. Ralph Goggin sang in a rich baritone voice "Pro Peccatis" (Stabat Mater), "Nasareth" (Grounded) and "Inclina ad Me" (Himmel). Weber's "Benedictus" was rendered by the quartette in a brilliant and graceful manner. The school choir sang sweetly the "Kyrie," "Sanctus" and "Benedictus," from St. Cecilia's Mass (Rev. J. Turner). "The Intermezzo" (Cavalleria Rusticana) was rendered in finished style on violin and cello by the Misses Casey and Miss Fitzpatrick, accompanied on the organ by Miss Agnes Colclough, who also played the accompaniments to the songs.

On the morning of the last day of the old year a fire, which proved one of the most destructive in Dublin since the burning of Arnot's premises broke out in the establishment of Todd, Burns & Co., at the rear of the Mary street block. The workrooms were one sheet of flame, and the fire rapidly spread to the wholesale dress and fancy goods and millinery departments. The dress stuffs could be seen burning in piles, and every moment the flames leaped further and further, and, stretching in long tongues across, at length caught the block of bedrooms. At 3.10 the roof fell in. At 3.15 a series of explosions occurred, and the police put back the people that had rushed to the scene. The flames spread with extraordinary rapidity, and at 3.20 they were noticed to have broken out in the front. A tremendous explosion occurred at 3.25, and then it was seen that the outbreak could not be controlled. A great explosion occurred at 3.30, when the entire block was a seething furnace. At 3.50 all hope of saving any of the premises was abandoned. The books, accounts and all important documents were locked up in the strong room, and are believed to be safe. Not a life was lost. Several thousands employed by the firm will be out of work for some time. The people will take care of those who suffer loss by the fire. Loss estimated at \$750,000.

RECENT DEATHS IN DUBLIN. CONNOLLY—Dec. 31, 1901, Cornelius Connolly 2 Cook street, R. I. P. FARRELL—Jan. 1, at 89 Cork street Mrs. Isabella Farrell. FOX—Dec. 30, at 13 Henrietta street Peter Fox. JOSEPH—Jan. 1, at 32 Upper Blessington street, William Charles Joseph. KELLY—Jan. 1, 1902, at 22 Sandwith place, Edward Kelly. LOUGHRAN—Dec. 31, at Shambo, Robinson street, Francis Loughran, in his 47th year. O'KEEFE—Dec. 31, at Cardiff bridge, Thomas O'Keefe. REILLY—Jan. 1, at Ballymurr, Dr. Peter Reilly. KELLY—Jan. 1, at St. Mary's, Henry Prinecrops, Mother, Mary Alphonse, second daughter of the late Patrick W. Kelly, of Vasey place, Minkstown.

MAHON—Dec. 31, at 82 Lower Gardiner street, Miss Bridget Mahon, aged 70 years. O'GRADY—Jan. 1, at 3 Bow Bridge, James O'Grady, brother of the late Hubert O'Grady, aged 69, for loss of his right hand sustained with the railway works in Minkstown.

ROCHE—Dec. 31, at 15 Abercorn road, Mary Roche. CADELL—Jan. 2, at Collinstown, Lusk, Patrick Caddell. BRENNAN—Dec. 22, at 76 North King street, John Brennan. CASSIDY—Dec. 22, at 22 Christchurch place, Thomas Cassidy, for over thirty years on the Daily Express and Mail. CLINTON—Dec. 23, at the Convent of the Holy Faith, Glasnevin, Sister Mary Clement, eldest daughter of Laurence Clinton Grange, Skerries, in the 24th year of her age and fourth of her religious profession. DAVIS—Dec. 23, Thomas Davis, East Arran street. EHDON—Dec. 30, at 56 Mulgrave street, Kingston, Bridget Eldon. HARPER—Dec. 30, at 52 Upper Gardiner street, Mary Harper. MCBRIDE—Dec. 30, at Jarvis street Hospital, Frank McBride, secretary Amalgamated Society of Tailors, (Emerald Branch). MULHALL—Dec. 30, at 2 Waterloo avenue, North Strand, Eileen Elsie Mulhall, Liverpool. NEVILLE—At the Infirmary, North City Asylum, Kate Neville. ROCHFORD—Mary Jane, Rochford, 2 Thomas Davis street, Dublin, died Dec. 23. SHELLEY—Dec. 28, at 57 Haddington road, Mary Shelley.

KILDARE.—The members of the Monastery of Reed and Brass band gave a concert Dec. 24. The band commenced the entertainment with a selection of Irish airs. Miss Cassidy, Ballysokan, sang "Killarney"; Mr. J. J. Burke, "Green Isle of Erin." These were about all the Irish items on the programme.

KILKENNY.—The annual meeting of the North Kilkenny Executive of the United Irish League was held in the Town Hall, Kilkenny, for the purpose of electing officers, etc. Mr. Michael Meagher presided, and there was a large attendance of delegates. Mr. L. Ginnell, E. L., was present on behalf of the Central Directory. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. M. Meagher; vice-president, Mr. Richard Doyle, chairman, Thomasstown District Council; treasurer, Mr. Michael Rice; honorary secretary, Mr. J. Teahan. On the motion of the chairman, seconded by Mr. William De Courcy, a resolution was passed calling on the County and District Councils to appoint only supporters of the National organization to any positions in their gift. Mr. Thomas Harrington was unanimously chosen to represent the Executive on the National Directory. The numerous friends of the late Mr. Joseph O'Shea, son of Mr. Michael O'Shea Castle street, Ballysagath, will learn with regret that he has passed away as the fatal result of an accident, which occurred on Nov. 21, in company with three students he left the Niagara University to take a walk through the country. They brought with them a rifle to amuse themselves in the woods adjoining the University. It accidentally discharged, wounding Mr. O'Shea in the body. He studied for the priesthood for eleven years at St. Wilfrid's College, Cotton Chead, North Staff, St. John's Seminary, Woverah Guilford, Surrey, and in consequence of falling health returned home to recuperate. On regaining health in 1896 he was adopted for the Diocese of Pittsburg, Pa., by Rt. Rev. Richard Pheilan. As a special favor he was permitted to study at St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny. At the termination of last mid-summer vacation the Bishop summoned him over to complete his studies. Many letters of sympathy and regret were sent his family by numerous friends, as well as from the president of St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny.

LONGFORD.—The bazaar and fancy fair lately held for St. Bridget's Church Ardagh, under the patronage of Rt. Rev. Dr. Hoare, Bishop of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise, was a good success. The net receipts were \$4,895. New Year's Day the clerk of the Catholic Parish Church, Dungannon, on going into the edifice, noticed that the alms boxes had been broken open and their contents extracted. He found the entrance had been effected through the window of the sacristy, the glass of which was cut with a diamond. Rev. Father Sheehy, P. P., had given instruction to take out any money that was in the boxes, every night, so that the robbers got nothing. On Dec. 31, the first of a series of lectures on "Technical Education," arranged for by the St. Vincent de Paul Society, of Longford of Ardagh and Clonmacnoise, was delivered in St. Mel's Hall, Longford, before a very large audience. On the motion of Mr. T. W. Delany, C. S., seconded by Mr. M. Sheehan, the chair was taken by the Most Rev. Dr. Hoare, who, on taking the chair, thanked them for having moved him to the chair, and proceeded to explain the object of the lectures which the Society of St. Vincent de Paul had arranged to have delivered. The lecturer was Very Rev. Dr. Langan.

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KERRY.—On Dec. 26, three men a horse and a side-car were swept by the current while crossing the Rye Fleck, near Castleisland, on the way to the Kilsarcon gracyard. One named Horan, was going down the last time in twenty feet of water when he was saved by a rope thrown from the bank. Hussey, another of the passengers, was sinking and exhausted when he was saved. The horse and car disappeared, and all attempt at getting them had to be abandoned. The following day, when they were brought out, Mr. Perry, of Cork, and others were carried into deep water a few years ago in this spot. About twenty-five persons were drowned in this spot, according to accounts given by some of the inhabitants. The recent meeting of the Castleisland branch of the United Irish League was attended by John L. Quinlan in the chair. A great demonstration was held in Castlegregory, Dec. 29, under the auspices of the United Irish League at which the principal speaker was Mr. Thomas O'Donnell, M. P., the recently returned envoy from America.

LIMERICK.—Dr. Adams of County Antrim, held an inquest on the body of William Tierney, a well-known native of Limerick, who owned an extensive farm near Crumlin, who, on Dec. 28 was found dead in the dyke, which he had entered for the purpose of looking after the milking of the cows. Deceased was most respected in the district of Gornagie, where he resided.

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A very sad incident occurred in Kilstel, near Ballinagarry, on Christmas night last, when Mrs. Ellen O'Shea, aged 46 years, was discovered dead in her home. She attended Mass at Granagh Church on the great festival and during the day participated in the domestic festivities in the best of health. During the night her husband found his wife dead beside him. The new facade of the Jesuit Church, Limerick, was opened on Christmas morning. It was more than thirty years since the poet of the county—Aubrey de Vere—said when shown the interior of the church, "Oh, it will never be finished without a handsome facade." Christmas morning saw the realization of the poet's desire. Through the three noble doorways separate entrances and exits are given to the church, and inside each door massive plate-glass double screens will be placed, giving increase of light at the lower end of the nave, and preventing draught. The ornamental tiling inside each entrance is very handsome and solidly laid on concrete beds interlaced by iron girders. The imposing granite steps outside are very much admired, their total width across being fifty feet, and terminated at each end by massive iron railings, and beautifully carved limestone piers supporting electric light standards, each bearing a triple light. The inscription across under the pediment stands out prominently in gilt letters: "Cordi, Jesu, Sacratissimo;" while in the centre of the pediment itself is in gold, "I. H. S." The three figures on the top of the pediment represent the Sacred Heart in the centre (a statue 8 feet high and weighing 26cwt.), St. Ignatius Loyola, founder of the Society of Jesus, and St. Francis Xavier, S. J. Apostle of India and Japan, at either side.

TIPPERARY.—Rev. Mother Ignatius of the Convent of Mercy, Bathurst, Australia, is now aged 84 years, and still strong. She is sister to Most Rev. Dr. Croke, Archbishop of Cashel. In 1866 she sailed from Ireland with twenty-four other religious. Father Hanly, C. C., of Galbally, has been appointed by Archbishop Croke, pastor of Cahircionish, in room of Rev. Father Hefferman, deceased. The death of Sister Mary Michael O'Brien, of the Convent of St. John of God, Wexford, occurred on Jan. 23. She was the daughter of the late Mr. Redmond O'Brien, Killenaulte, Tipperary, and entered the convent in 1888. For the past six months she has been wearing away with consumption, and on Monday she passed away to her eternal reward. The half-yearly meeting of the Tipperary National Teachers' Association was held lately in the new Confraternity Hall, Thurles. The chair was taken by Mr. Maher, B. A. The death of Very Rev. Wm. Flannery, D. D., Dean of Windsor, Ontario, took place lately at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Hugh Delany, Berrisokane.

WATERFORD.—The death of Mrs. Richard Nolan, mother of Alderman George Nolan, happened at Johnstown, Waterford City, Dec. 26. The funeral to St. Mary's Cemetery, Ballygunner, was very numerous attended. At a largely attended meeting of the Waterford Branch of the United Irish League, held in the City Hall lately, the Mayor (Alderman R. Hearne) presided. The death of Very Rev. Wm. Flannery, D. D., Dean of Windsor, Ontario, took place lately at the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. Hugh Delany, Berrisokane.

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