

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.—Dr. Patrick Canavan of Bank road, Bootle, Liverpool, died April 9, aged 55 years, deeply regretted. He was a member of the Bootle Town Council and School Board. He was a brother of the late Mr. Bartholomew Canavan, of Belclare, Tuam, and an uncle of the Rev. J. Canavan, Patrick Canavan, Tuam, and Robert and Edward Canavan, Belclare.

On April 6 a conference of branches of the Northern Division of the County of Galway was held at Corofin. The meeting was called to consider the question of the County and District Council elections in the Division. The parish priest of Corofin presided.

With deep regret we chronicle the demise of Mr. Michael Hawthorne of Williamstown, which happened on March 30, aged 68 years. The sad event occurred in the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin. The announcement caused widespread regret, as the deceased was the pink of nationality, and ever ready, at any sacrifice of time or pocket, to prove his political faith. In early years he took a prominent part in the '66 and '67 movement, also in the Land League and National League. Years of political watchfulness had convinced him that British promises were to be treated with distrust, and that only by self-reliance would Ireland ever secure beneficial measures from an English Government. He was a generous subscriber to every National object, and was a devout and practical Catholic. On Tuesday the remains arrived by train at Ballymore Railway Station. There was a most affecting scene at the railway station, the grief of the relatives quite overpowering them. The funeral cortege started for the ancient burial ground of Templeogue, and was the largest seen in the district for years. The vehicles and foot people extended two miles, all classes and creeds following the bier, testifying to the great esteem in which deceased was held.

LIMTRIM.—Mr. William McGarry of Clooncarne, was united April 7, in wedlock, to Miss Mary McKoon, daughter of Mr. James McKoon, of Currycramp, at Bornaocula chapel, by the Rev. Father Flynn. Mr. McGarry is son of Mr. John McGarry, Clooncarne, and nephew of Mr. P. McGarry, Longford, and Mr. M. McGarry, Clooncooly, Drogheda. The guests enjoyed a splendid drive to The Beeches, Roosey, and home by Johnston's Bridge.

The members of the Bornaocula branch of the Gaelic League held a meeting April 4. Attendance numerous. Four classes, under the charge of J. Bohan, M. Cox and P. McGlynn, were carried on, from 7.30 to 9 o'clock p. m. After class a committee meeting was held. J. Feeney (vice-president) in the chair.

MAYO.—The new postoffice at Ballyhamis was opened for business on April 7. The building is an imposing one, occupying a central position opposite the Railway Hotel and Ulster Bank.

Mr. Patrick McDonnell, of Kilnacran, died March 27, after a few days' sickness, at the early age of forty-five years, deeply regretted. His remains were borne to the family burial ground, Turlough, followed by a large cortege. The Rev. Michael Bourke, Turlough, officiated at the grave. Deceased was son of the late Mr. Henry McDonnell, was grandson of the late Mrs. N. McDonnell, and cousin of Mr. Thomas Moran, Park, so that he comes of an ancient and respectable stock.

On April 5 occurred the death of Mr. Michael McEvilly, of Ballyheane, at the age of thirty-two years, deeply regretted. He was son of the late Mr. Thomas McEvilly, and brother of the Rev. Martin McEale, professor, St. Jarlath's College, Tuam. The remains were conveyed to the Ballyheane church, where Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated.

The Very Rev. T. H. Quinn, Adm., Downstream, about to start for the United States, at the request of Most Rev. Dr. Lyster, to collect funds to complete his cathedral, was the recipient of an ovation from the people of Ballyhadarreen on April 9, as soon as it became known that "Father Tom," as he is affectionately called, had arrived to say good by and get the blessing of his Bishop. The people thronged to see him, and with a hearty God speed. The inhabitants assembled at St. Mary's Hall, where they presented an address which conveyed the sentiments of their affection, as well as the desire that his appeal to the Irish and Irish-Americans in the Greater Ireland would meet with a generous response. Father Quinn, who was moved by the spontaneous enthusiasm displayed, thanked them for their address, and said that with their good wishes, and especially the assurance they had given of a remembrance in their prayer, he had no fear that the mission would be successful, particularly as it was an appeal to hearts and to decorate the House of God.

MOSCOW.—Mr. Andrew J. Callaghan, Clontarf, died April 5, deeply regretted. He was only thirty-seven years of age. In the Gaelic games he took a great interest.

Miss Nellie O'Donnell, of Corbally, Ballymore, who was an assistant in Plunkett's school, died recently at the early age of twenty-two years.

named Tansey, were thrown on the roadside April 2. The Tansey family are well and favorably known in the County Sligo for generations. The family is bereft of parental guidance, the mother having died some time ago, whilst the father, Brian Tansey, passed away recently, leaving three sons and a young girl to mourn his loss. Their stay in the old homestead has been cut short, and by their unselfish patriotism in throwing in their lot with the tenants, they are made the first victims of heartless ejection. On Wednesday thirty police marched to the house and engaged in the work of eviction. The sub-sheriff, Colonel Coffey, was present, as well as a number of bailiffs. The furniture and belongings were thrown on the roadside. The work of amputation being complete, two emergency men were put in possession of what was once the home of a happy and industrious family.

On Wednesday, the 26th of March, died at Curabane, Ballintubber an old and respected inhabitant. In the person of Mrs. Ellen Egan, widow of the late Mr. Owen Egan, of Carabane. She deceased had attained the age of 113 years having been born on St. Patrick's Day, 1789. She had not been complaining for any length of time previous to her death, and during her long life was never known to be a day seriously ill. She was of strong and robust constitution, and was able to perform household work—even milk a cow—up to a few days previous to her demise—excepting that her sight partially failed two years ago she retained all her faculties to the last, and would relate many stirring events of the latter part of the eighteenth and the early years of the nineteenth century. She had a vivid recollection of excitement created by the landing of the French at Killybegs. She took a pleasurable delight in recalling a little episode of her own at the time, when she was a little girl of nine years. "Herself and a few neighboring children stole a march to see the French soldiers passing from French Park through Elphin, to Ballinacree where the famous battle was fought in a few days afterwards." She was a woman well on towards middle age in the Repeal movement, and when the joyous ringing of the chapel bells announced to our grandfathers and great-grandfathers that "O'Connell was in for Clare," thus heralding the emancipation of the persecuted Catholics of Ireland, from the thralldom of penal laws enacted by an alien government banning the Holy Faith planted on Irish soil by St. Patrick. Harrowing tales she would tell of the scenes she witnessed during the famine years of "black '46 and '47." The deceased lady peacefully passed away, in the presence of her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a devoted Catholic and in her last hours her spiritual wants were attended by the Rev. James Martin, Ballintubber. The interment took place on Good Friday in Tubberleva the funeral cortege being large. The Rev. James Martin recited the last prayers at the grave side.

On April 3 the ceremony of reception took place in the Presentation Convent Kildare. The young lady received is Miss Annie Coghlan, in religion Sister M. Dominic, daughter of Edward Coghlan, Laragh House, Ballon, County Carlow. Right Rev. Monsignor Murphy performed the ceremony. The death occurred on March 28 of Mr. Luke Dempsey who belonged to one of the oldest Kildare families. Mr. Dempsey traveled for a Melbourne firm his peregrination taking him to the Transvaal. He used to describe his experiences in the Boer country, where he underwent toll and privations not ordinarily experienced by the home commercial traveler. On the death of his brother eight years ago he succeeded to the farm and residence of Clonbullogue. It being necessary for his brother, the Rev. Father Dempsey to advertise for him in Australian papers. His funeral was of a very imposing character, over a hundred vehicles following the remains to their last resting place in Rathangan cemetery.

At Graigue-na-maugh, April 15, passed away a most esteemed resident in the person of Mrs. Hannah Doyle, mother of the late Rev. Marv Doyle, of Athy, County Kildare. Solemn High Mass and Office in Graigue church and the funeral were very largely attended by persons from the surrounding districts.

Mrs. John Whelan, Carlow, died April 8, after a short period of sickness, deeply regretted. On Thursday an Office was read and High Mass offered up in the Cathedral for the repose of her soul. At the Mass Most Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of the diocese, presided; Rev. F. Gorry was celebrant; Rev. P. Campion, Graigue, deacon; the Rev. E. O. Loughlin, Tulow, sub-deacon; Rev. Dean Brophy, Carlow College, master of ceremonies.

DUBLIN.—A terrible occurrence was brought to light on April 7 at 115 Rialto Cottages, situate a short distance off the South Circular road, near Dolphin's barn, Dublin. The house was occupied by Augustus O'Neill, aged thirty-eight, machinist at the Great Southern and Western Railway Works, Inchicore; his wife, Margaret O'Neill, aged twenty-six, and their only child, Joseph aged five. The family had not been seen since Saturday night previous, and the suspicions of the neighbors being aroused, they proceeded to search the premises, who discovered the bodies of the deceased O'Neills.

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KING'S.—The members of the Tuam branch of the Gaelic League have sent \$150 to the Central Executive of the League as their donation to the Language Fund, which was taken up through the week in which Saint Patrick's Day fell this year.

The bazaar, drawing of prizes, and concert organized by the Rev. T. O'Reilly, of Clonmacnoise, came off on April 6 at Shannonbridge, and proved a great success. There was a large attendance, and at the close of the entertainment the Rev. gentleman expressed his thanks and satisfaction at the financial result, which is to be devoted to the renovation of Clonmacnoise Parish Church. In the evening a grand concert was given in the recreation room of the old military barracks.

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LEINSTER

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Irish language, and the members are increasing in number every week.

Madame Edgeworth has given the local Board of Guardians six months' notice to get out of the dispensary in the town. She says Dr. Brogan is the cause of her action.

The death of Mr. Patrick Reilly, Ballinacree, happened April 4, aged eighty-three years. Deceased was an extensive corn dealer in the good old days when that product was grown more than it is now in the County Longford. He also carried on a public-house and grocer's establishment in Ballinacree. The funeral was very largely attended. The immense cortege spoke highly of the esteem in which deceased was held.

DUBLIN.—The funeral of the late Mrs. Margaret O'Callaghan, of Boyne View, Drogheda, to Tullyallen cemetery took place April 12. Great numbers of the people attended. She was the widow of the late Mr. Charles O'Callaghan, of the Customs.

On April 5 the remains of the late Mr. Thomas Cafferty, of Rathmore, Ballyshannon, were interred. Deceased was a native of Haggardstown, Kildrusly, Dundalk, from which place he emigrated to the United States. Some years ago he married Miss Keenaghan, of Rathmore, Ballyshannon, in New York. The union was a happy one but six years ago deceased contracted a disease to which he succumbed. Doctors in America recommended his native air as a last resource for his life to be prolonged, and with his wife he came to her residence, near Ballyshannon and Bunderan. Mr. Cafferty was a thorough Irishman, and the numbers attending his interment testified to the respect held for his wife's family in Ballyshannon. A new plot had been secured by Mrs. Cafferty in the precincts of St. Mary's Catholic chapel, and to this grave the remains were removed. Rev. J. Tierney read the funeral service in the church and at the grave. The chief mourners were the wife of deceased and her relatives. At the close of the service special prayers were offered at the request of Father Tierney, for the repose of deceased.

MEATH.—The funeral took place in County Meath, April 10 of Michael PULLAM, late of Gormanstown, who died in Drogheda Hospital after a long illness. He belonged to an old and respected family, leasehold tenants in the estate of Lord Gormanstown. He deceased and his brother Frank were elected in the days of the Land League, and they took an active part in the land agitation. Frank was arrested under the Coercion Act. The farm from which they were evicted was worth \$6,000.

Recent Deaths in Meath.—April 9, at Kinstown, Navan, John MARSH, aged seventy-six years. Office of High Mass in Kinstown chapel. Interment in Danesstown. March 16, at Shallow John Rafferty. Funeral to Killyshavin. April 3, at Slane, Laurence KIRWAN. Funeral for Hill of Slane, March 25, at Rathkenny House, John Morris Tierlan. Funeral to Rathkenny cemetery.

On April 4 the obsequies of the Rev. James Owens took place in Mornington church. Right Rev. Monsignor Seagrave, St. Peter's, presided.

QUEEN'S.—On April 2 at the Presentation Convent, Strabally was celebrated the golden jubilee of the foundation of the convent. High Mass followed by a sermon on the work done by the sisters and parish priests for past fifty years was delivered by Very Rev. J. O'Hanlon, Star of the Sea Sandymount, Dublin (a native of St. abaly).

WESTMEATH.—The death occurred on March 27, at 154 North King's Road, Dublin, of Mrs. Bridget Darragh, widow of Mr. Alexander Darragh, Cashel. The late Gerald Darragh, Cashel, who deceased was mother of Mr. James J. Darragh, hon. secretary Catholic Boys Brigade, Church street. The funeral to Glasnevin was very largely attended.

WEXFORD.—Rev. Thos. V. O'Grady of the Franciscan Church, Wexford, has just been transferred to the convent in Galway. He is a native of Tintern. Father O'Hanlon, also of Tintern, is in Galway.

The annual Caidh of the Gaelic League of Ennisceorthy, came off on April 9 in the Athenaeum. It was a success. Regarded as an Irish entertainment it reached a very high standard. To those who did not understand a word of Irish, the traditional airs were captivating; the people applauded when they heard the grand old language of their native land. Many there were in the hall acquainted with the language, and to those the feeling lullabies and joyful songs appealed with great force for preservation.

In the Convent of the Order of St. John of God in Wexford, April 8, was received Miss A. Cowman of Sparracald Ennisceorthy, religious title Sister M. Antonia. Right Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns officiated.

The death of Mr. Patrick Murphy of Moorfield, Rathspeck, occurred on April 5, aged 65 years, deeply regretted by the people in the Barony of Forth. On Monday the funeral took place, and on all sides it was conceded that the cortege was one of the largest seen in the Barony for many years bearing testimony to the popularity of the deceased. Interment took place at Pinnerstown, where the funeral office and Requiem Mass took place.

WICKLOW.—An esteemed resident of Tinehly passed away April 8 in the person of Mr. Owen Malone, deeply regretted. He was a member of the District Council for Shillelagh.

A meeting of the Bardarrig branch of the United Irish League was held in the League Rooms, April 6. Rev. Peter J. Monahan presided, and there was a large attendance.

MUNSTER

CLARE.—The South Gaelic League

resumed classes in the local school rooms April 6. Mr. Jordan, N. T., and Mrs. McMahon, N. T., have charge of the pupils. Classes were opened for beginners, and although many were not aware of that fact the attendance was satisfactory.

The funeral of the late Mr. James Hussey, postmaster at Bodke, took place on Good Friday to Kilmoe cemetery. The coffin was borne on the shoulders of young men. The great number of cars which followed bore ample testimony to the esteem in which deceased was held by the people of East Clare. Deceased had only reached his thirtieth year. His mother and friends have the sympathy of all.

CORK.—One of the semi-finals in the Gaelic Athletic Association's football games was held in Cork April 6. The contest was between the Kanturk and Dromtariffe teams.

On Easter Monday the ceremony of the Profession took place at the Presentation Convent, Hospital, County Limerick, the young lady who made her vows being Miss Heelan (in religion Sister Mary Augustine), daughter of Mr. John Heelan, Elton. Ver. Rev. Canon Scully, Hospital, officiated.

The impressive ceremony of the profession of a Religious took place in the chapel of the Presentation Convent, Wexford, April 11. The young lady is Miss Nora Fitzgerald (called in religion Sister M. Aloysius Joseph), eldest daughter of Mr. Richard Fitzgerald, Cork. The ceremony was performed by the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns.

The impressive ceremony of the dedication of the Ballymore (Queens-town) new church took place April 6 in the presence of an immense gathering. Most Rev. Dr. Browne drove out to Ballymore and celebrated Mass at 9 o'clock, at which he addressed the congregation. The new church stands on the site of the old edifice. The architect is Mr. Samuel Hynes, Cork; builder, Mr. Denis Creedon, Fermoy. The new church is situated on the hill at Ballymore, and can be seen for many miles at all sides. The altar is a work of art, and made entirely of Irish oak by Hill of Dublin. The stained-glass windows represent the Crucifixion with the Blessed Virgin, St. John and Mary Magdalen at the foot of the Cross. Statues of Our Lady and St. Joseph are placed at each side of the altar and the Dove and the Lamb are represented in stained glass in the rose windows looking in at either side of the sanctuary. The beautiful and costly sanctuary lamp is the gift of Mrs. O'Keefe who has given generously in other respects to the church. The Stations of the Cross are the gifts of fourteen Queensstown and Ballymore ladies. All the painting, varnishing and decoration was done by Purcell & Sons, of Queensstown.

ULSTER

ANTRIM.—A woman, Esther Bedford, aged 60, died suddenly recently in Wilson place, Carrickfergus.

ductors of Mr. John Kavanagh. Mr. Thomas O'Donnell, M. P., appealed to them to inquire whether they were following the traditions of their ancestors and doing their duty to the country by contributing 50,000 Irishmen to fight England's Godless battles.

LIMERICK.—Limerick is the "banner" County of the national organization, the United Irish League. There are more branches in the county than there are in any other county in Ireland, and they have given great financial assistance to the fund of the United Irish League and to the fund for the revival of the language.

Mr. John Herbert, publican, Croon, became suddenly sick while dressing about 6.30 o'clock on the morning of April 9, and though medical aid arrived with all haste, he had already passed away. Death was due to heart disease.

TIPPERARY.—Miss Cuddling, of Carrick-on-Suir, was received into the Order of St. John of God at the Wexford Convent, April 8. Rt. Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns, officiated. Many priests were present, and several friends and relatives of the new religious.

Very Rev. Dean Kinane lately received a letter from the secretary of the Great Southern and Western Railway company, stating that the company intends, as soon as preliminary arrangements are arranged, to proceed at once with the construction of the Goodcross and Cashel Railway.

WATERFORD.—The death of Mr. James O'Donoghue, of the Customs House, Waterford City, occurred April 6, aged 58 years. The funeral to St. Mary's cemetery, Ballygunner, was largely attended by all classes and creeds of the city.

At a recent meeting of the members of the Lismore branch of the United Irish League, Mr. J. C. O'Brien, vice-president, presided.

ARMAGH

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The Easter conference of the clergy of the Diocese of Armagh was held in the Synod Hall, Armagh, April 3, Cardinal Logue presiding.

CAVAN.—Thomas McConnell, of Kingscourt, was found dead in the garden of home March 21.

With regret we chronicle the death of Mr. John McCabe, of Cooteshill, which sad event happened on January 5, fortified with the rites of Mother Church. Mr. McCabe took a leading part in the affairs of the community and enjoyed the confidence of his fellow townsmen, having been year after year elected chairman of the Town Commissioners. The value of his services must still be green in the recollection of his friends who assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory and also of sympathy to his family.

DONEGAL.—Peter Boyle, aged fifty years of Meenavilly, was run over and killed by a train near Ardara station on the Donegal Railway, on the night of April 10.

Miss Mary Burke, Knathar, Ballyshannon, died Tuesday March 25, aged seventeen years. She was the daughter of Mr. Francis Burke, Knathar. The funeral was largely attended.

The funeral of Mrs. Seumas Marmanus, well known to the Irish literary and political world as Ethna Carbery, a gifted writer of patriotic songs, took place April 4 from Revlin House, Donegal. The concourse of persons which followed her remains to their last resting place was an evidence that her affection for Donegal had been repaid and that in her residence there she had gained the esteem of all. In the miles that separated her home from the churchyard little groups of waiters were standing at the road bends and under the hedges in the rain, advancing as the sad procession drew near. At Mountcharles, her husband's former residence, a touching mark of respect was shown, when the young men of the village, taking the coffin from the hearse, bore it on their shoulders up the steep hill, past the mount, and on beyond the town, in which all the shops were closed.

DOWN.—On Sunday, the 6th inst., a meeting of the Bryansford branch of the United Irish League was held in the League rooms, Tollymore. The Rev. P. Mullen presided. A resolution was adopted, confirming the arrangements to hold a joint meeting of the Bryansford and Ballymoney branches at Bryansford Chapel for the selection of District Council candidates for the electoral division of Bryansford.

FERRANAGH.—Francis Yague, aged twenty-two, of Knocknabara, Kesh, was fatally crushed when passing between two carriages in the Glasgow station of the North British Railway on April 10. He had been only one week employed on the line.

MONAGHAN.—A meeting of the St. Macartin Branch, Irish National Foresters, Monaghan, was held on April 6 in the Christian School, Rev. D. P. McCleary, Chief Ranger, in the chair.

TYRONE.—The death took place on April 9 of Mr. Hugh McCann, son of Mr. McCann, contractor, Omagh. He deceased was an active member of the Omagh branch of the Irish National Foresters. The funeral took place Friday morning from Lisnamallard, the place of interment being Killybegs. St. Eugene's band and the Irish Moss Brothers' school, under the direction of Mr. John Kavanagh, were present.

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