

Dublin Notes.

(From Exchanges.)

A GOOD story is told of a remark which Lord Morris is said to have made to Lady Aberdeen when her husband was Lord-Lieutenant. It was the judge's privilege to take the "Lady Lieutenant" to tea at a garden party in Dublin. Lady Aberdeen had not long arrived in Ireland. Everyone knows that her mind is more than recaptive—it is as a thirsty soil, craving for the dew of good news. Her Excellency, leaning on the judge's arm, asked with her engaging smile, "Are there many Home Rulers here to-day?" And the judge, who succeeds in preserving his brogue in perfection, answered gruffly, "There's just yerself an' the waiters, me lady."

In distributing the prizes at St Malachy's College, Belfast, Bishop McAlister, of Down and Connor, referred to the education question, and said that colleges, which were established with insulting and impossible conditions, were a mockery. The Catholics of Ireland have not yet been fully emancipated. There remain still disabilities and barriers for the Catholic who wishes not to sacrifice his Catholic principles. Even the present Government did not show any signs of doing justice to Catholics in the matter of education, and in removing other disabilities by which Catholics would be put on a level with their Protestant fellow-countrymen in the exercise of their faith and convictions. As regards the Government institutions the difference between the Protestant denominations is not a question of principles but of detail. The objection of Catholics to these institutions is a question of the most vital religious principles, and to our great material loss we must forego the advantage offered by these institutions rather than endanger the faith of any of our members.

The Rev Albert Barry, C.S.S.R., contributes a learned article to the *Irish Ecclesiastical Record*, in which he maintains that St Patrick was a native of North Wales. The saint's father, Calphurnius, he points out, held senatorial rank as a citizen of the great Brito-Roman city of Caer- Legion or Caerleon, on the Dee, the modern Chester. Like the other magistrates and civil rulers of that city, he possessed a country villa, and Father Barry concludes that this villa must have been in the Vale of Clwyd, where, according to ancient Irish writers, St Patrick was born. The Vale of Clwyd is, it is true, many miles from Chester, but in those days, observes the reverend gentleman, "well-trained steeds bore men swiftly to and fro upon the splendid Roman road." Father Barry supports his arguments with no mean skill, and his contention, whether it be accepted or rejected, must excite widespread interest.

The *Monster News* has the following good story of the honesty of a poor blacksmith of Drumcliffe:—"At the recent Islands Presentment Sessions held at Ennis, the following presentment appeared on the sheet, but was not investigated, as the claimant did not appear: 'From John O'Keefe, compensation for a rick of hay, his property, maliciously or wantonly burned on the night of Wednesday, October 11, 1893, or early next morning, on the lands of Fountain Cross, Parish of Drumcliffe—25s.' There was no appearance when the case was called on and the explanation is exceedingly interesting. It appears that after the claim was made a humble blacksmith named Michael McNamara, who has a forge near Fountain Cross, came forward and stated that it was he that set fire to the hay, and paid £10 to the owner for the damage. He had an appointment with a friend, and whilst waiting lay down near the sack of hay, after pulling out some to rest upon. He was then in the act of pulling a match out of a boxful when the whole lot took fire, and despite his efforts the hay also. He was alarmed, and got away, but like the honest fellow he is, he was determined no one should be wronged, and so he came forward and paid up."

A posse of the Royal Irish Constabulary recently invaded the barony of Mourne, County Down, and arrested two young men named Burns, sons of a farmer living at Moneydarraghmore, and an old man named McCartan, of Ballyvay, near Kilkeel, on a civil warrant, issued by the Vice-Chancellor, for contempt of court in cutting and taking away seaweed from the Mourne shore, in violation of the decree of last year awarding the seaweed along the Mourne shore as the exclusive property of Earl Kilmorey. The prisoners, under a heavy escort of police, were conveyed to gaol. The case of McCartan is particularly hard. He holds a few acres of land adjoining the shore, and he only lifted the seaweed washed up along the edge of his little farm. He is an old man with a young family, and is barely able to eke out an existence for his wife and children. It is said that none of the parties trespassed in defiance of the decree of the Court, but they believed they had a right to the seaweed opposite their holdings, as this was enjoyed by their predecessors from time immemorial. The arrests created the greatest sensation in the neighbourhood, and not one calculated to strengthen the good relationship between landlord and tenant in the barony of Mourne.

A paragraph recently appeared in the Dublin *Daily Independent* under the heading, "Windfall for a Dublin Servant Girl," says the *Westmeath Independent* of recent date. The paragraph was to the

effect that a servant girl employed in a house on the south side of the city had fallen in for a considerable sum of money, amounting to £15,000, on the death of a gentleman in England. It was stated that her brother, a corporal in the East Kent Regiment, shared in this fortune, which included a castle and house property in the Island of Jersey. These facts are literally accurate, but have attached to them an even greater degree of interest to Athlonians than to the people of the metropolis. The Third Buffs, the East Kent Regiment, are at present occupying our local military barracks, and include amongst their roll-call Corporal James Herbert Knight, a native of Kent. After some two or three years' service his good conduct and intelligence won for him the coveted two stripes, which are generally the precursors of greater honours. It so happened that Corporal Knight when relieved from the military quarters for the evening, spent some of his leisure hours in the wine and spirit establishment of Mr John Potter, in Irishtown. Here he became enamoured of the servant maid, Miss Catherine Kivney, whose relatives belong to the district of Clonmacnoise. A courtship was carried on, resulting in an offer of marriage, to the consummation of which there was a religious barrier in the way—Knight being a Protestant and his inamorata a Catholic. It is said that love overcomes every obstacle, and in this case, Corporal Knight secured his lady love in marriage by the change of his religious faith. The marriage ceremony took place in St Mary's Catholic Church, in the month of June last. The married couple took lodgings on the Roscommon side of the town where they lived for a couple of months, until Corporal Knight received the pleasing intelligence that he had been certified with his sister, the servant girl referred to in the *Daily Independent*, as the heirs-at-law of their rich uncle who died in the Island of Jersey, leaving behind him the money and possessions that have been described. Corporal Knight proceeded on furlough to England and was immediately put in possession of his portion of the treasure trove. One of his first acts was to purchase his discharge from the army, and then to invite his Athlone wife to join him in England. Both are now residing in Jersey. The sister, who shares his good fortune, was in service in Athlone, and was for some time at Pastor Eland's, Garden Vale.

CATHOLIC NEWS.

(From Contemporaries.)

NEW England has 230,000 more Catholics than Protestants.

Of the 95,000 inhabitants of the Sandwich Islands, 25,000 are Catholics.

A new Trappist monastery has just been opened at Troisveaux, in the diocese of Arras, France.

Leo XIII. has presented to the Czar an ancient and exceedingly interesting Slav Missal.

The Most Rev Dr Duggan, Bishop of Clonfert, has celebrated lately his eightieth birthday. *Ad multos annos.*

Prince Maximilian, nephew of the King of Saxony, was during the week ordained a priest. He was an officer in one of the leading regiments in his uncle's army. He is 23 years of age.

In his Christmas allocution the Holy Father said that, if peace and charity had disappeared because the sight of Heaven had been lost we must not despair. Days of rest were returning through the religious awakening of the people.

According to an Amsterdam correspondent the Rev Father Van Oppenraaij, a Jesuit, has obtained with great distinction the title of Doctor of Literature at the University of Leyden, which is by no means favourable to religious men.

A Jewish Rabbi, the Rev Dr J. Silverman, addressing a large congregation in the Temple Emanuel, New York, while protesting against any bill in aid of denominational schools said:—"The Catholic religion is the greatest power in the world for good. It is a greater power for peace than all the standing armies of Europe."

Bishop Zerr, of the Catholic diocese of Tiraspol, Kherson, Russia, is in Rome, endeavouring to remove the obstacles to an agreement between Russia and the Vatican. The Pope's recent utterance concerning the bad treatment of Catholics in Poland seems to have annoyed the Czar. There was no other course open to the Pope but to denounce persecution.

It may not be generally known that Signor Tito Mattei, the musical composer, whose melodious waltz is familiar in every drawing-room in the kingdom, received, when only twelve of age, a gold medal from the hands of the Pope for playing at the Vatican.

The rare ceremony of the atjurament of a professor of the Jewish creed took place lately in the chapel of the Ursulines at San Nazario, Verona. The convert was Signorina Fausta Tedeschi, and the ceremony was performed by the Coadjutor Bishop of the diocese.

Father Kenelm Vaughan, of England, who spent three years in a missionary journey through South America, from Panama to Patagonia, addressed the students of Johns Hopkins University the other day on the subject of his adventures. The journey was made on mule-back, on the backs of Indians, in canoes, in hammocks and on foot,