

Galway.—The Very Rev P. F. Kavanagh, O.S.F., of the Abbey, Galway, has just had produced by Messrs Sealy, Bryers, and Walker, a poem entitled "Alcohol; A sermon in verse," the moral and patriotic purpose of which it is impossible to praise too highly. Father Kavanagh's work is devoted to describing the evils and destruction produced by the abuse of alcoholic liquors, and he has, undoubtedly, succeeded in presenting many vivid and impressive pictures of the sorrows caused by drink.

A branch of the Gaelic League will be established in Galway to further its work in the locality. The National teachers are being urged by the League to elect as their delegates to the next congress gentlemen who will support strong resolutions in favour of the Irish language.

With very sincere regret we announce the death of the Very Rev Jeremiah (Canon) McEvelly, who was brother to his Grace the Most Rev Dr McEvelly, and one of the oldest and most respected priests in the diocese of Tuam. He was born at Louisburg, and ordained priest in the year 1853. The earlier years of his priesthood were spent as curate in the parishes of Newport, Knock, Annagh and Robeen, where he left after him many lasting monuments of his piety and zeal. Augingower was the first parish committed to his pastoral charge. Here he built a parochial residence and erected several schools. From Augingower he was translated to the parish of Dunmore in 1882. In this parish he laboured in season and out of season to promote the temporal, as well as the spiritual, welfare of his people.

Kerry.—The population of the County is 179,136, of whom 4,481 speak Irish only; 69,701, Irish and English; the remainder, English.

At a Petty Sessions Court held at Waterville last week, Constable Edward West, now stationed at Ballyduff, County Waterford, was prosecuted by the Crown for having on the 8th of October last in the Abbey of St Finian, near Waterville, maliciously damaged an ancient chalice stone and altar in the ruins of the abbey. The matter having been brought before the House of Commons by Mr Sexton, a fresh prosecution was ordered. The Bench, having heard the evidence on both sides, were unanimous in convicting Constable West, and imposed a fine of £5, with costs and compensation.

The following recently appeared in the *Kerry Post*:—"A young man named Lynch, a native of Listowel, is reported to have very cleverly effected his escape from Cork gaol a few days ago. Lynch was arrested on a charge of desertion from the Munster Fusiliers, and was temporarily detained in the gaol pending the arrival of a military escort. While the warden was inspecting Lynch's cell the latter slipped out, and almost got out to the corridor when the warden sprung upon him. Lynch, then getting the better of his soldier, pushed him back into the cell, and having in the twinkling of an eye shut the door, quickly turned the key, and thus locked the warden securely in the cell. By the means of a pass key Lynch gained the open air, free. He then made for Listowel, where, however, he was again apprehended and conveyed to Dublin under a military escort from his regiment."

Kildare.—The Kildare Archaeological Society, which is doing excellent work, has elected the Earl of Mayo to the office of president, rendered vacant by the death of the Duke of Leinster. The society is turning with earnestness to the task of preserving the ancient monuments of Kildare from utter disappearance. One Celtic cross has been rescued on its inspiration. And now a committee has been appointed to call the attention of the Board of Works to those that need its protecting, but not its restoring, hand.

King's County.—John Adye Curran, the County Court Judge, addressing the grand jury at Tullamore Quarter Sessions, said there were only two bills to go before them. He was happy to be able to congratulate them on the satisfactory state of King's County.

Colonel Robert Hackett, familiarly known in the neighbourhood of Birr as the "Blind Colonel," recently died rather unexpectedly at his residence, Rivers'own, County Tipperary. His death at the age of 54 is due to the effect of fearful injuries received in the Zulu campaign. Besides quite a host of minor wounds, he received a shot in the head which took rather a remarkable course. The bullet, entering the outer corner of the right eye, passed out by the left, destroying both organs. He was at the time leading the Nineteenth Regiment at the battle of Ulundi, which, it will be remembered, brought to a close the Zulu campaign. He was for some hours among the dead on the field, and it was by accident that he was not in his unconscious state buried alive. He was a brother of Lieutenant-General Simpson Hackett, and another brother, Colonel Thomas Bernard, who won the Victoria Cross, and was accidentally shot in 1880.

Limerick.—Limerick suffered considerably by the severe storm of January 12. Portions of the roof of the railway factory in Limerick city were blown off, breaking down the telegraph wires, which, however, were repaired previous to the arrival of the night mail. A high sea was running in the Shannon all night, and steamers had to remain in port. From the lower portion of the river reports came that the storm was the worst experienced for many years. A

ship almost went ashore, but managed to put into the Shannon in a disabled condition, her boats, sails, and masts having been carried away. In the neighbourhood of Adare many of the roads were rendered impassable by fallen trees, and in one instance an old man, driving a donkey and cart, had a most miraculous escape. He had only just got off the cart to walk when a huge elm fell and smashed his conveyance to pieces.

Longford.—Ford, Bernard, of County Longford, went to Queensland 20 years ago; last heard of in the employment of the Australian Gas Company, West Maitland, New South Wales; sought for by his brother. Reply to Dublin *Freeman* office.

Louth.—The population of the county is 71,038, of which five speak only Irish, 2,671 Irish and English; the remainder English.

A letter from the Board of National Education was recently received by the Drogheda Corporation in re the adoption of the Compulsory Act. Mr P. Reilly pointed out that the principal teaching body in Drogheda was the Christian Brothers, and until their claims were acknowledged they should have nothing to do with the Act. Mr Downey supported this view. The Mayor said the Education Board might appoint the committees themselves. After some discussion it was decided that a committee, consisting of the Mayor, Mr Martin Buttery and Mr Patrick Reilly, be appointed to confer with the Right Rev Monsignor Murphy, St Peter's, and Very Rev John Curry, St Mary's, and report.

Mayo.—A fearful hurricane passed over Castlebar on January 12. It raged with unabated fury for several hours, unroofing houses and uprooting trees. Not for the past twenty years has such a storm prevailed there. Surrounding districts have also suffered, and telegraphic communications to the different towns was for some time suspended.

Meath.—The canal between Drogheda and Navan will soon be re-opened, and two new screw steamers will be constructed for the purpose.

Queen's County.—A public meeting of the Knights of the Plow was held on the Market Square, Maryborough, one week ago. The speeches were delivered from the Town Hall window. The object of the meeting was to establish a branch of the Knights of the Plow, and was organised by Mr Benjamin Pelin, of Narraghmore, in conjunction with the Castletown labourers, but without any consultation with the local labourers. Mr J. Shelly, Castletown, occupied the chair, and speeches were delivered by Messrs J. C. O'Neill, Carlow; Benjamin Pelin, Tyrell, and Leahy, Dublin; and G. Nanston, town clerk, Maryborough. Resolutions were passed calling on the Legislature to grant pensions of £20 a year to labourers who have passed the age of 65 years; to place a tax of £1 on every acre of uncultivated land; and to shorten the hours of labour on Saturday. Deputations were present from Mountrath, Castletown, and Stradbally.

Roscommon.—The population of the county is 114,397, of which only 21 speak Irish only; 11,864 Irish and English; the rest English.

Mr Michael Cunningham, auctioneer, Boyle, put up for sale five roods of reclaimed bog land at Croghan, the property of Mrs Jermingham. The yearly rent is 7s, and Mr Cunningham knocked it down to Mr Bernard Carroll, Caramore, Croghan, at the extraordinary sum of £40—for five roods of bog land!

Sligo.—Recently five families, numbering twenty-six persons, were evicted on the Montgomery and Evans estate in Killoman and Coolgrove. The evicting party consisted of sub-Sheriff Harrison, Carrick-on-Shannon; bailiffs Longmoor and Hetherington, Dromahair, and a large force of police. One and a half year's rent was offered a short time ago by the tenants in settlement, but it would not be accepted.

Tyrene.—Fifty years a total abstainer from all intoxicating drinks. This is the grand record made by Mr Harvey, tailor, of Omagh, who took the pledge in the days of Father Mathew. Mr Harvey took the pledge in Beragh Church from Father Lennon, January 1, 1844, and during all the succeeding years of vicissitude and change faithfully kept it, and celebrated its half a hundred anniversary on Monday, January 1. Mr Harvey is a great advocate of the cause, having experienced during that long period the many blessings which attend a life such as he has lived. He vividly remembers when the Apostle of Temperance preached in Brook street chapel, Omagh, in 1849. Father O'Kane was the parish priest then, but died in 1866, and was succeeded by Very Rev B. McNamee. Mr Harvey possesses the Father Mathew medal, of which the following is a description: On one side is a shield, surmounted by a cross, with a male figure at one side and a female figure at the other, each bearing a bannerette. On the obverse is the pledge, surrounded by a circular inscription, "The Total Abstinence Society of Ireland, Very Rev T. Mathew, President." The *Irish World* has ever taken the deepest interest in the cause for which Father Mathew did so much, and heartily congratulates Mr Harvey on this glorious record, wishing him many happy years of life, as a bright and living example to his fellow-citizens of Omagh to go and do likewise.

H. J. SMITH,

The People's Bootmaker, 127 Manchester St. (opposite Burke's Hotel), Christchurch.—Men's Shooters from 8s 6d, Shoes from 8s 6d, Bluchers from 5s 6d, Canvas Shoes from 2s 6d, Ladies' Boots and Shoes from 6s, Children's from 2s. Remember H. J. SMITH'S 127 Manchester street.