

Irish News.

(From contemporaries.)

Antrim.—The steel bark *Lough Neagh*, which has been lying in the Salisbury Dock, Belfast, for sale, was the subject of an interesting religious ceremony. The vessel was recently sold to Italian ship-owners. She was built three years ago by Workman, Clark, and Co., Limited, and has been the subject of considerable litigation. After the sale and transfer of the vessel the new owners, in accordance with Catholic practice, directed the blessing of her by a Catholic priest. The crew arrived in Belfast from Naples by the *Dynamic*, and among them is an apprentice to the sea, Prince Pignatelli, a scion of one of the oldest and noblest houses in Italy. Father McElveenny, Adm. St. Joseph's, proceeded on board the vessel, which is now named the *Emilia Ciampa*, and performed the ceremony. The function was the first of the kind in Belfast.

Armagh.—The bear which was giving some trouble to the districts around Newry lately was reported to be prowling near the city of Armagh. He was in the meadows of Mullinure. As the news spread like wildfire, a large crowd, armed with all sorts of weapons, collected in the meadows. For hours the police and the excited crowd scoured Mullinure and neighbouring townlands, but the whereabouts of the much-dreaded beast remained undiscovered. The only apparent trace which could be found of him was in the numerous marks discernable in the snow, which still covers the fields in the district. It is stated he was seen going into a cowshed at Ballinabone.

Cavan.—In the House of Commons on Monday night Mr Ross:—I beg to ask the Chief Secretary whether he is aware that Hugh Moore of Lisnafunl, near Virginia, County Cavan, who took a farm from which a former tenant had been evicted for non-payment of rent, has been and is boycotted, and has been prevented from selling his horses by disorderly crowds, who followed him about blowing horns in fairs and markets; that on February 2, while drawing hay to his farm, he was attacked by a large crowd and violently assaulted and his cart overturned; that on several occasions horn-blowing crowds assembled about his house, and that Moore's sister is also boycotted, and that the mill hands in the neighbourhood have refused to scutch her flax or grind her oats. Chief Secretary John Morley stated he was not aware of that which the honourable member mentioned.

Clare.—The judge at the recent spring assizes held in Ennis said he had to congratulate them that their district was more auspicious now than it had been for the last month, and he hoped the return of fine weather would be a mark of prosperity to Ireland and to Clare. He was glad there was not much of a criminal nature to come before them.

Down.—The bear roving around Newry district is keeping the residents on the lookout. It pursued a plumber named Nesbitt, who only considered himself out of harm's reach when he safely gained a field, having scaled a wall six or seven feet high. In an interview Mr Nesbitt said he never before experienced such a shock, and were it not for the presence of mind which he maintained, his activity, and the wall that served as a barrier against his vicious assailant, he believed the animal would have devoured him. Search parties proceeded in pursuit of him. These included Sergeant Durnan, Sergeant Kilcourse, Newry; Sergeant Keane, Camlough; Constables Campbell, McConnell, Gilmore, Fitzpatrick, Phillips, Sheridan, Reilly, McCusker, Mr Richard Doherty, and many others, who divided themselves into groups and went in different directions tracing the marks of the brute. They made a minute search of the townlands of Tullyhappy, Clonduff, Searse, Knockduff, Crobber, Shinn, etc., but at no time did they come in sight of the troublesome one, and a second day's investigation had no results. The country is being scoured by the police and civilians, but ruin has not been captured.

Dublin.—Most Rev Dr Walsh, Archbishop of Dublin, has been appointed a Commissioner of National Education in Ireland. Not since the days of Most Rev Dr Murray has a Catholic prelate sat on the board.

We regret to announce the death of the Rev Father Linus O'Reilly, C.P., which took place in St Paul's Retreat, Mount Argus, at an early hour on Saturday morning. Father Linus, who was 48 years of age, was a native of County Cavan.

On St Patrick's Day the Empress Frederick of Germany displayed a bunch of shamrocks, and in addition was attired in costumes especially made in Ireland. It is not improbable that her Majesty will visit Dublin in the autumn, but prior to this the Duke and Duchess of York are expected, when they will be the guests of the Lord Lieutenant.

Galway.—The late Mr Digby Seymour, Recorder of Newcastle, and County Court Judge for Northumberland, who was known in Newcastle and a wide radius round as the "eloquent judge," was

the son of the Rev Charles Seymour, rector of Clifden, County Galway, a clergyman who was greatly given to declaiming against what he was wont to term "Old Popery." The son was decidedly free from bigotry.

Kerry.—The Doon protection post has been discontinued, and the men who were located there transferred to Tralee. It is expected that other protection posts in the county will be abolished.

Mayo.—The evictions of seven families in Coogue Middle and adjoining localities on the Dillon property has just been effected. The evictions were carried out under the supervision of Messrs Jackson (under agent), Stewart (land steward), Forbes, Cassidy, Duignan, and others. The parties evicted were—Anthony Kilduff, Pat Davin, L. Conboy, Widow Flynn, Widow M'Nicholas, M. Mullen-John Kearney (Liscat). The four first-named were not re-admitted but the remaining three were allowed back to their holdings as caretakers. In consequence of the extreme poverty existing in the locality the evicted parties will be a burden on the rates, and it is felt that unless the Government comes to the relief of the people in the district some sad tales—similar to those of '48—will be told. Widow M'Nicholas was re-admitted in consequence of the illness of her child and the fact that her mother was in an extremely delicate condition.

Monaghan.—Mr A. Magennis, one of the old Ulster race, after a lingering illness, departed this life recently in Dublin, fortified by the rites of the Church to which he was so zealously devoted. He, as well as the rest of his family, was a native of County Monaghan. They were distinguishable alike for their love of faith and fatherland. They are lineal descendants of the great chieftains, the lords of the territory of Iveagh in the County Down, who in conjunction with Hugh O'Neill, Prince of Tyrone, fought in the wars with Queen Elizabeth, and subsequently joined Owen Roe at the battle of Benburb. One of the family of Iveagh, after the confiscation of their property and the outlawry of its rightful owners, made his way to County Monaghan, and from there the deceased, Arthur Magennis, and his family are descended, as the latter's grandfather had documentary and other proofs to show. The deceased was a gentleman of considerable intellectual attainment. He was for a time a professor in Rockwell College, County Tipperary, and he was the winner of the gold medal offered by the Marchioness of Queensberry for the best essay on Home Rule. Mr Magennis was a brother of the late Mrs Ellen Forrester, a sweet Irish poet.

Sligo.—At the recent meeting of the Sligo Board of Guardians, a letter was received from the Chief Secretary, Mr Morley, stating that he had received a communication from the Congested Districts Board from which it appeared that the Board had decided that the reconstruction of the sea wall estimated to cost £1,100 at Bailieconnell, County Sligo, would be beyond their resources. The Board had, however, decided to vote a sum not exceeding £180 for clearing stones from the tenant's land making it available immediately.

A meeting was called for the purpose of considering what action should be taken with reference to the sealed order of the Local Government Board ordering that the Sligo Abbey burial ground should be closed against interment was held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall. The Chamber was thronged to suffocation, and the feeling of those present was characterised by unanimity. On the motion of Mr Thomas Hanney, seconded by Mr Kelly, Mr John Ward, civic delegate, was moved to the chair amid loud cheers. Mr Patrick Meehan was unanimously elected secretary to the meeting. Mr Patrick Meehan then read the following resolutions:—"That we, the descendants of the old inhabitants of our ancient borough, hear with the greatest regret the steps ordered to be taken in regard to the closing of our ancient burying-ground, the Abbey, and as a sealed order has been issued to that effect by said board, still we are confident that if our corporate body, who are the chosen representatives of our town and borough, call on the board to reconsider their decision, and grant the privilege to those who can claim such right of being interred with the dust of our forefathers, beneath its hallowed shrine, we are almost certain such privilege will not be refused, and that it will stem the tide of discontent among the inhabitants and be the means of preventing future questions in that regard." The same course, it is stated, will be pursued by the Local Government in regard to St John's Cemetery.

Tyrone.—Recently blasting operations brought the sinkers at the Dunganon collieries to the coal which had been discovered some months ago. During the week all obstacles were removed and excavations made in the seam to the depth of three feet, and several tons of coal raised. The coal was at once tested for steam and domestic purposes, and proved to be of excellent quality and much superior to Scotch coal. It is expected that an abundant supply of the coal will be placed on the market during April. The result means extensive employment and cheap fuel for the working classes.

The tenants on the Shankey estate of Mr G. B. Kennedy, Mullahtain, Stewartstown, which consists of the following townlands:—Urbakeagh, Goriacloghan, Doonagh, Donaghendry, Shankey, Cloughfen, Tullyfaughan, and part of the lands of Soara, have offered to buy their holdings at fifteen years' purchase with the current year's rent off—practically fourteen years' purchase.

CATHOLIC SUBSCRIBERS

of LINWOOD, and in and around LANCASTER PARK Churchchurch, please Note

MRS. E. SIMPSON,

LADIES' MILLINER and DRAPER, has commenced Business on Ferry Road, two doors from Lancaster Park Hotel. Every description of Drapery and Millinery kept in Stock. Being a Cash Buyer from the Home merchants enables me to deal liberally with all my Customers. A Share of your Patronage respectfully solicited. Please Note Address.