

# Irish News.

(From contemporaries.)

**Armagh.**—Cardinal Logue on Temperance.—At the usual meeting of the Confraternity of the Sacred Heart and the Temperance Association, held recently, in St Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh, his Eminence Cardinal Logue delivered an address on temperance, in which, after alluding to the manifest evils of intemperance, he said: Temperance associations should be like the Church herself in continually extending the sphere of their influence until all were gathered into the one fold under one shepherd. One great principle they should never forget, and that was, not only to be temperate themselves, but to be zealous for the conversion of others. Man was made for association with his fellow man, and that association was either for good or evil according to the principles which bound them; in a temperance association the force of example gave strength and courage to its members, and tended to spread the grand and glorious cause for which they were united and extend their Association.

**Cork.**—Capture of the *Cork Herald* by the Healyites.—The *Cork Herald* was a paper worked in the Nationalist interests, supposing the Irish party and the principles and constitution of the Irish movement. Some of the directors, however, sympathising with Mr Healy, completed their change in the policy of the paper by the publication of a leading article taking sides with Mr Healy.

Carried off to New York.—The Queenstown pilot of the Cunard Line, Mr Thomas Martin, who piloted the *Campania* out of the harbour, was unable to land, there being no boat alongside. He was consequently taken on the ship to New York. The tender left Queenstown about 6 o'clock, but was unable to come up with the ship, and it was impossible for the small pilot boat to live alongside on account of the gale and sea.

**Sale of an Extensive Estate in Cork.**—One of the most extensive and richest estates in the County of Cork, which surrounds and embraces an extensive portion of the ground on which the town of Skibbereen stands, is now about being sold out by the mortgagees, Mr Robert Stayner Holford and a Mr Morley, of London, the original debt and one of old standing being some £60,000, about half of which is said to be paid off and the balance still outstanding. The option of purchase is to be given to each tenant, and it is stated 18 years of the present rent is what is sought.

**Dublin.**—Hon E. Blake, M.P.—Some Irish newspapers, tired perhaps of assailing Mr Michael Davitt, have now made Mr E. Blake Q.C., M.P., the subject of their attacks.

The Hon Mr Blake has won golden opinions in New Zealand—not, indeed, because his decision has been favourable to the New Zealand Government in the Midland Railway arbitration case, but because of his judicial fairness and conspicuous ability. Mr Blake is not a Catholic. He is, we understand, an Anglican. Rumour, not without foundation, points to him as a successor to Mr Justin McCarthy as leader of the Irish party.

**Fermanagh.**—Remarkable Occurrence near Lisnaskea.—A remarkable occurrence took place near Lisnaskea, County Fermanagh. An old man named John Lunney, aged 85 years, who had been ailing for some time, died about 6 o'clock, and his wife, who had been ill a few days, died about 12 o'clock the same night.

**Galway.**—Missions in Ballinasloe.—A most successful fortnight's retreat was brought to a close in Ballinasloe by Fathers Andrew and Mark, Passionists, Mount Argus. About four hundred new members joined the Confraternity of the Holy Family, and over four thousand approached the altar rails during the retreat. Never was such a sight witnessed in the immense and beautiful Church of St Michael's, Ballinasloe. It was only equalled by another occasion when Cardinal Wiseman, in 1858, preached the dedication sermon of the same church. The sacred edifice was not only filled to overflowing, but hundreds were compelled to renew their baptismal vows outside in the grounds.

**King's County.**—Exciting encounter with a madman.—Considerable commotion was caused at Ballaghmoyle, near Clare, by the conduct of a man named James Grennan, who suddenly became demented, and threatened to kill the other members of his family. The police found Grennan inside in the house armed with a four-grained fork, and behaving in a most violent manner. It was not without a great amount of difficulty he was disarmed and secured. He was subsequently committed to Maryborough District Lunatic Asylum.

**Kerry.**—The Kerry G.A.A. and the O Connell Memorial Church.—A deputation from the Cahirciveen Football Club have waited on the Very Rev Canon Brosnan, Cahirciveen, to present him, for the Memorial Church, with the silver cup won by them recently from the Ballymacelligott champion team. An address was also read on the occasion. The Very Rev Canon, who received the deputation very cordially, thanked the members for their kindness in coming and presenting him with the costly and beautiful cup which he said he would be happy to utilise in the interest of the Memorial Church.

**Limerick.**—Serious charge against a daughter in Limerick.—The old woman, Ellen Galway, whose legs, it is alleged, were broken by her daughter, as already reported, died in Barrington's Hospital Limerick. An inquest was held on the body by Mr Coroner De Courcy. Evidence having been given, the jury returned a verdict that the deceased died from the result of injuries inflicted by her daughter, Johanna Galway. The accused remains in custody.

**Mayo.**—Abatements of rent in Ballaghaderin (Mayo).—The rents on three properties around Ballaghaderin have been collected, and in some instances substantial reductions were given to the tenants. Through his agent, Mr Kerr, of Strokestown, Colonel French, the landlord of the district called "The Islands," gave 2s 6d in the £1 to the tenants indiscriminately. Mr Lestranger, as agent for Mr Bashly, gave 3s and 4s in the £1, according to the circumstances in each case; while The MacDermot, Q.C., late Attorney-General, gave 4s in the £1 to every tenant on his estate.

**Sligo.**—The street preaching.—The street preachers have again made their appearance. They spoke for a few minutes to a cordon of over two hundred police. They were not allowed to continue more than five or ten minutes, being then compelled to retire to their lodgings. There were some slight scuffles and crushing between the police and the people as the crowd tried to force their way through the lines, but nothing of any account. There was not a stone thrown the whole day, a fact, no doubt, attributable to the recent circular that Mr J. P. A. M'Hugh, the Mayor, issued. It is stated the "preachers" intend leaving for Ballina shortly, but Sligomen regard the news as too good to be true. During their walks through the streets they are usually guarded by eight or ten constables, but, with the exception of groaning and hooting, they are not molested.

**Tipperary.**—Unlicensed Arms.—At Roscrea Petty Sessions recently the Excise authorities had prosecutions against a number of farmers belonging to the surrounding country districts for carrying guns without being licensed. Fines of £2 10s were imposed.

**Tyrone.**—A woman killed in a scutching mill.—Recently Mr John Malone, coroner, Cookstown, attended at Desertcreat for the purpose of holding an inquest on the body of Margaret Smith, who was killed the previous morning in Desertcreat scutching mills. The deceased was endeavouring to capture a bundle of flax when her arms were snatched off by the shoulder.

**Waterford.**—Fall of Billboy Bocks. Apprehended loss of life.—A Waterford despatch says:—Great consternation has been caused in Waterford by the fall of the huge rock overhanging the road between the Waterford bridge and the Dungarvan railway station. The debris forced the side-wall of the road into the river. It is believed some persons are entombed. The rock came down with a tremendous crash which was heard a long distance off. Crowds were attracted, several of whom gleefully recounted their providential escape, as they had only passed the place some ten minutes previously. The road is covered to a height of twelve feet with huge boulders of massive rock. Traffic is suspended, as the highway is completely blocked and neither man nor vehicle can pass. Intending passengers by the evening train, from Waterford via Dungarvan, were obliged to go a hilly, circuitous route to reach the station, and the inconvenience experienced is very great. Thousands have visited the place, which is carefully guarded by a posse of police. Great anxiety prevails.

**Westmeath.**—Extraordinary Effects of Lightning.—A Ballinasloe despatch says: In the village of Ballinamuddagh, two miles from Aughrim and five from Ballinasloe, two little girls were pulling turnips in a field, when suddenly their eyes were dazzled by a brilliant flash of lightning followed by a loud clap of thunder. They immediately betook themselves to the shelter of a sod ditch, when immediately they were again startled by a still greater flash of lightning. The lightning tore through the ditch, making matchwood or the large roots of an ash tree that grew on the ditch about four feet from them. Close to the ditch on a pasture field was a large sheep cock of hay built around a long pole. The lightning struck this pole, and passing down it through the hay set pole and hay on fire. A number of men were a long time engaged in quenching the fire. It was found that only three feet of the pole remained sticking out of the ground, and that charred and split up, while a large crack was observed in the ground under where the sheep cock had been. There were two heifers lying close to the cock, and these were killed. At some little distance from the sheep cock the ground was ploughed up for a distance of five yards.

Although it has always been asserted that Franklin constructed the first lightning rod, it is now ascertained that this honour belongs to a monk named Prohop Delwish, who set up the first lightning rod at Scuttenbury, Bohemia, says the *Emerald*. His apparatus was made and put together during the spring and summer of the year 1754, and was first set up in the garden of the cure of Prenditz (Moravia), June 15th of the year above named. The rod attained as much distinction as that later made by Franklin, and was the cause of the inventor being presented with much money and large estates. His enemies claimed that the rod was the cause of the great drought of 1757, 1758 and 1759, and upon the matter being reported to Vienna it was ordered to be taken down.