

Irish News.

(From Contemporaries.)

ARMAGH.—A Charitable Newry Lady.—Probate of the will of the late Mrs. J. J. O'Hagan, who died recently at Warrenpoint, has just been granted. Testatrix bequeaths £2,000 to the Commissioners of Charitable Donations and Bequests in Ireland, to be invested by them and called "The John J. O'Hagan Trust Fund," the interest on the investment to be paid by the Commissioners annually to the treasurer for the time being of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Newry. Two hundred shares in the firm of Matt D'Arcy and Co., Ltd., held by deceased in her lifetime, are bequeathed to the sister of deceased, to revert on her death to "The John J. O'Hagan Trust Fund." £500 is bequeathed towards the support of the Home for the Aged and Infirm, Kilmorey street, Newry; £25 to the administrator of the parish of Newry for distribution amongst the poor; like sums for the same purpose to the Convent of Poor Clares, Newry; the P.P. of Warrenpoint, and the administrator of the parish of Newry; £100 for a like purpose to the Convent of Mercy, Newry; and £350 for the erection of an altar in the Convent of Mercy, Lurgan, £300 is bequeathed for Masses to the Abbot of Mount Mellery, and several smaller sums also for Masses to be said publicly.

CARLOW.—A Record as a Life Saver.—Mr. Michael Webster, lockkeeper, in the employment of the Grand Canal Company at Carlow-Graigne, has a life saving record that need not fear rivalry from any quarter. His latest exploit only a few weeks ago brings up the total of lives he has saved from the River Barrow to the extraordinary number of 79, and the great majority of these feats were performed single handed and at imminent risk to his own safety. On Monday, June 7, the son of Mr. Abner Connor, agent for the Canal Company, whilst playing with some companions fell into the chamber of the lock at Carlow-Graigne in which there was a depth of water at the time of 16 feet. The screams of his playmates summoned Mr. Webster to the scene, who at once without removing any article of clothing plunged into the basin and rescued the lad as he was sinking for the third time.

CAVAN.—"Rattle her Bones."—On Friday, June 4, Dr. Bourke, Coroner of East Cavan, held an inquest in the Cotehill Workhouse on the body of a woman named Catherine McCabe, who died after being conveyed to the infirmary in the ambulance on the previous evening. Dr. Moorehead deposed—I am Medical Officer of the Workhouse, and on yesterday was called upon to visit the deceased, and found her in a dying state. I believe she was suffering from dropsy, and that she was killed by being jolted so many miles in the workhouse van. I consider it quite unsuitable for the conveyance of any sick person. I have several times brought under the notice of the guardians that the van was unsuitable for removing the sick. I do not consider one person sufficient to drive and attend to the sick person. The van is 20 inches in width, 6 feet 10 inches in length, and 38 inches high. It has two wheels with a door behind. The minutes of April 22nd, 1895, were produced containing copy of a verdict in an inquest held on the body of Margaret Cherry. The verdict concluded thus—"The jury condemn in the strongest manner the ambulance in which the deceased was conveyed as being utterly unsuited for the purpose." An order was received at the time from the Local Government Board that the guardians should instruct their medical officer regarding the ambulance, but the guardians considered the ambulance good enough with some repairs, but the repairs were never done. The jury found that the deceased died from failure of the heart's action, caused by the jolting of the workhouse van while being removed to the infirmary, and censured the guardians for their neglect in not providing a proper conveyance.

CLARE.—Extraordinary Freak of Nature.—There has been an extraordinary "freak" in Kiltrush, being no less than a duck with four legs. The "clutch" of young ducks was being hatched for a tradesman in the town named James Crowe, and with the rest of the birds was being "brought out" or hatched by a hen. The little legs are fully developed in all the parts, and the only difference between them at all is that the two fore ones are much shorter than the two hind ones. The little thing is getting on well, and is now a fortnight old. It is an object of great curiosity.

DONEGAL.—St. Columba Festival at Gartan; Mass on the Mountain.—A great celebration in honour of St. Columba was held at Gartan on Wednesday, June 9. Cardinal Logue arrived in Letterkenny on Tuesday for the purpose of taking part in the celebrations. He was accompanied by his secretary. Practically all the priests of the diocese were present, and there was an immense crowd of visitors in the town, every available place of accommodation being taken. Mass was celebrated at Letterkenny at half-past seven by his Eminence. The procession started from Letterkenny at 9 a.m. High Mass was sung at Gartan on the natal spot at eleven o'clock, followed by Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament and a *Te Deum*. A meeting was held, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell presiding, and an address was presented to his Eminence. A message was received from his Holiness the Pope, conveying his blessing.

DUBLIN.—A Thomas Moore Anniversary Celebration.—The anniversary of the birthday of Thomas Moore was celebrated by the National Literary Society, 4 College Green, Dublin, on May 28. The celebration took the form of a conversation, with selections from the immortal melodies at intervals. Increased interest was lent to the occasion by the presence of M. Lionel Radigue, member of the Association Bretonne, who graciously presented to the National Literary Society a handsome plaque bearing the arms of Brittany. Mrs. Scarff-Goodman sang "After the battle." Miss H. Rose Byrne sang "My gentle harp," and

"She is far from the land," Miss Alice Furlong sang "Sail on, sail on thou fearless bark," and Mme. Boeufve gave "Avenge and bright," Mr. W. Baker gave "Oh, where's the slave," and Mr. Varen "When through life unblest we rove," and "How oft has the banshee cried." One of the best items of the evening was the magnificent performance of a selection from the "Melodies" on the harp by Mr. Owen Lloyd. The singing of "Let Erin remember," by all brought the reunion to a close.

Dublin Property Awaiting an Heir.—On the 1st June, Joseph Birmingham and John Ryan, members of the House Painters' Society, reported to the police at the Lad Lane station that John Keating, aged 62 years, also a member of the society, who had lodged at the house of Mrs. Delaney, 1 Camden buildings, had died at St. Vincent's Hospital. They stated that as far as they knew he had no relatives, and that he had some property at his lodgings. Sergeant Lawler (23 B) proceeded to the lodgings. Mrs. Delaney showed him the deceased's box and gave him the key. The sergeant on opening the box found deposit receipts and cash amounting to over £240 and some articles of jewellery. The money and property remain in the hands of the police.

GALWAY.—A Heartless Landlord.—One Colonel Brown unfortunately possesses an estate in a most picturesque but barren portion of Galway—Mannin and Manninbeg, southwest of Clifden, where the wild and rugged shore pierces the Atlantic at Slyne Head. The gallant Colonel has a heart as callous as the giant Galway rocks, that during countless ages have resisted the furious beating of the Atlantic waves. Last year he would not permit the people to take from the seashore for manure the seaweed left there by God and the waters. Consequently they were unable to till the land, and therefore are unable to pay the rents. Heretofore this most Christian and gallant gentleman levied an annual sum on the struggling people for permission to remove what the sea threw upon their shores. This is English law in Ireland in Queen Victoria's jubilee year.

Londonderry.—Centenary of St. Columba in Derry.—On Monday, June 7, began the Solemn Triduum appointed by his Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. O'Doherty in memory of St. Columba, the thirteenth-hundred anniversary of whose death occurred on Wednesday. In all the Catholic churches of the city special devotions began as early as six in the morning in a series of Masses. All day the faithful continued to visit the churches to do homage to the Blessed Sacrament. The Old Church Long Tower, which stands on the site of the *Dubh Regies*, or Colum-Kille, was the centre and chief place of reverential resort. The religious fervour was surpassingly edifying. There was, too, a secular display of an historic character. In a street known as St. Columba's Wells a vast concourse of Catholic people assembled. Here is the famous St. Columba's stone, and the wells respectively known as Tober-Adamnan, Tober Colum-Kille, Tober-Martin. One only (St. Columba's) is accessible. This had been closed in for a generation by the municipal authority on sanitary grounds and for convenience of traffic. It was opened on Monday and, having been cleared of mud, at once gave out its spring in a full clear flow. The scene at the well was remarkable. Crowds pressed on to get the water, which is being taken away in bottles to be preserved.

MAYO.—New Church for Castlebar.—Castlebar, in the far west, may be taken as typical of the immense progress which has been made in the erection of ecclesiastical and educational edifices in recent years in Ireland. A new church is now being built there and will, it is expected, be completed in less than eighteen months. It will be one of the handsomest buildings of its kind in Connaught. It is computed that when it is finished fully £30,000 will have been expended on religious and educational institutions by the Rev. P. Lyons, P.P., since 1883. The rev. gentleman has issued a circular in which after describing the great necessity of a new church in the town he says—"Towards the attainment of this great object my parishioners, of whose fidelity I have received so many and such touching examples, are prepared to tax themselves to their utmost strength; but the magnitude of the undertaking compels me, in order to accomplish this arduous and difficult work, to urgently appeal to all whom this circular may reach at home or abroad for aid to bring it to a successful issue. For all, living or dead, who may have contributed towards the erection of the projected new church the Holy Sacrifice will be offered up once a week, and the names of the contributors carefully recorded." It is to be hoped the worthy pastor of Castlebar will receive the support of all who can afford to contribute towards the erection of a badly-needed church.

WATERFORD.—Irish Trades Union Congress.—The fifth annual Trades Union Congress of Irish workers was opened in Waterford on Monday, June 7, and no fault can be found with the spirit in which the delegates have undertaken their important duties. The address delivered by Mr. Leo, who was chosen President of the Conference was pitched in a moderate key and turned on the questions of technical education, the enfranchisement of the worker, and excessive railway rates. The president concluded his address by suggesting that some delegate should strengthen the agitation against the financial wrongs of Ireland by proposing a resolution endorsing the line of action that has already been taken on that subject by representative public men in all parts of Ireland. The report of the Parliamentary Committee, which was adopted, expressed satisfaction at the introduction of the Workmen's Compensation for Accidents Bill, and intimated that the Government purposed next year making a serious effort to deal with the question of old age pensions. Important resolutions were subsequently adopted on Government and public contracts, importation of foreign made goods, and other matters of moment to Irish workmen.

WEXFORD.—Excursion to Vinegar Hill.—A large number of excursionists arrived in Enniscorthy on Sunday, June 6, by special train, for the purpose of visiting the most historic and

SMOKE "ROYAL COLORS" TOBACCO.

(IMPROVED AROMATIC.)