

Irish News.

Antrim.—The annual meeting of the Irish Temperance League was held in Belfast on Tuesday afternoon. Mr T. W. Russell, M.P., who was the principal speaker, said the Parliamentary record in regard to temperance legislation from 1880 to 1885 was disgraceful, while the period occupied by the present Government was more so. The Government, including the present Irish Chief Secretary, were playing fast and loose with the Irish Sunday Closing question, and before an advance could be made the temperance party would have to make things unpleasant for the Government.

Armagh.—An Orange band invaded the Catholic quarter of Portadown town known as the Tunnel and began to cheer defiantly at being able to march through the Catholic quarter. The inhabitants, seeing this defiant attitude, made an onslaught on the band and two drums and several instruments were taken away and broken. A number of people were suffering from wounds and were taken to the doctor. What the Catholic people of Portadown complain of with regard to the Tunnel is this: There are two more direct roads that the bands could go by. They object, and justly, too, that these Orange bands should be permitted to enter their quarter solely for defiance, and in order to give annoyance, when other roads are more convenient through which they could proceed. A continuance of this conduct, which is apparently winked at by the authorities, will surely lead to bloodshed and probably murder.

Cork.—Father Davis, of Baltimore, County Cork, is happily convalescent. His attack was of a most serious character, influenza, followed by bronchitis, complicated with congestion of the lungs.

her rest-hous, known as the "Owleries." It may be added that the "hand and heart" homespun cloth also represents a flourishing Donegal industry.

Down.—Robert Hanna of Belfast supplied to the press some interesting details touching the demise of James Magee, Ballykine, Ballynahinch, who died a few days ago at the advanced age of 100 years. The battle of Ballynahinch is now a matter of history, but at the time of its occurrence old Mr Magee lived in the vicinity of Edenarady, where the battle was fought between the united Irishmen and the Royalist forces. Following is the interesting account:—"I need not enter into details of the great fight, but there is one incident I cannot pass over. Immediately adjoining Mr Magee's farm some of the peasantry were hiding after the close of the contest. Amongst these was Eliza Gray, her brother and sweetheart. Their hiding-place was discovered by the yeomen, and the brother and sweetheart were slaughtered forthwith. The courageous girl rushed forward to render assistance and was shot dead also, by command of the officer of the yeomen. The three were laid in the one grave, and, when Munroe, the leader of the United Irishmen, was apprehended Magee's mother—the Spartan woman—rushed forward in the midst of the cavalry to hand a drink he sorely needed. In this locality, in Mr Magee's early day, the Catholics had to assemble for worship at the side of rocks at Burren and elsewhere; and till this day, in the heart of the Dunmore Mountains stands an altar that served the Catholics here for one hundred years. It is told that Oliver Plunkett, the martyred Bishop of Armagh, celebrated Mass at it. Mr Magee's funeral was largely attended, and the obsequies were performed by Father McGrath, Ballynahinch."

Dublin.—In commemoration of the birth of a daughter during the past year, and in keeping with a time honoured custom, the Lady Mayoress was on New Year's Day presented with a silver

SARGOOD, SON & EWEN
 MANUFACTURERS OF THE CELEBRATED
STANDARD BRAND BOOTS & SHOES
 DUNEDIN. ONLY GENUINE WHEN
 BE SURE THE BOOTS YOU PURCHASE
 HAVE THE
STANDARD TRADE MARK
 ON THE HEEL.
 REGISTERED TRADE MARK
STANDARD
 TRADE MARK
BRANDED
STANDARD
 ON THE HEEL.
 IT HAVING COME
 TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THAT INFERIOR
 TRADE BOOTS ARE BEING SOLD FOR STANDARD MAKE PLEASE
 BUY ONLY HAVING THE TRADE MARK ON THE HEEL.

During the progress of the malady he was assiduously watched by Dr Hadden, of Skibbereen, Dr Donovan, of Cork, having been called into consultation. He has done great practical work in fostering into life and activity the Irish fishing industry.

Donegal.—At the usual fortnightly meeting of Davitt and Carndonagh branch of the National Federation recently held the following resolution, proposed by Wm O'Doherty, was passed unanimously:—That we, the members of the Carndonagh branch of the Irish National Federation, as a reply to the treatment accorded him at Waterford, ask Mr Davitt to contest the division of Inishowen at the next general election, and we defy the minions of "Terrorism and Toryism" to gather up 200 professing Nationalist votes throughout this division against the father of the Land League and the nobles of our race.

There is a rapidly-increasing demand for Donegal Home Industries linen, which is dyed in beautiful shades and is peculiarly suitable for artistic needle work. One interesting thing shown is the "Hamilton" bed-coverlet, a counterpart of which has been bought by the Queen. It is worked on Donegal linen with polished flax threads, looking like silk, but with a subdued lustre of their own. Another and most beautiful coverlet is of Japanese hand-painted crepe—known as "moon and clouds"—with a Japanese cherry-blossom design on it, the embroidery having been done in Ireland. The natural deftness of the Irish race is, however, best shown by the wood carvings. Three years ago two Donegal boys were trained in London, partly at the Polytechnic and partly at Donegal House, and they now teach a considerable class at Gweedore. Some owls, modelled after original study of the birds—too much stress cannot be laid on this—are admirable. They are done for the Countess of Aberdeen, who wanted them for the decorations on the ural windows of

cradle and other gifts as souvenirs of the interesting event. On the same day her husband, Alderman Meade, was installed for a second term as Lord Mayor of Dublin.

We notice from the Registrar-General's report that the annual rate of mortality in Dublin for the past week was 64 per thousand of the aggregate population. London was 46, Edinburgh 22, and Glasgow 28.

Although living a somewhat secluded life at Elm Park, Merrion, Lord Ffrench was a most popular nobleman, and his readiness to throw open his fine park to the Gaelic Athletic Association and other bodies made him a great favourite. He is succeeded by his brother, the Hon Martin Joseph Ffrench. The late Lord Ffrench was an ardent supporter of the Home Rule cause, and in O'Connell's time he, as well as his father, the third Lord Ffrench, and his brother, the present peer, were deprived of their Commissions of the Peace for the county of Galway for attending a repeal meeting. Lord Ffrench's purse was always open to aid the National cause from O'Connell's to Butt's time and from Butt's to the present. The death of Lord Ffrench places the Towerhill family and The O'Conor Don's family in deep mourning.

The half-yearly meeting of the city of Dublin Workingmen's Club was held recently under the presidency of the Lord Mayor. The report of the committee of management was of a satisfactory character, and showed that the liabilities of the club had been reduced by nearly £50 during the half-year. The Lord Mayor, to whom a warm vote of thanks was passed, referred to the necessity which existed in Dublin for clubs of that description, and said that if they had a paternal Government the want in this respect would be supplied. Referring to the Main Drainage Scheme, he said that the