Irish Emigrants

Through the courtesy of the United States Commissioners of Immigration at Boston and Philadelphia, the Anti-Emigration Society has received some interesting official statistics of the Irish immigration at these ports. It appears that the total number of Irish, not citizens of the United States, who landed at Boston during the year 1903 was 7624, of whom 4470, or 58 per cent., were females. New York continues to be the chief port of entry for Irish immigrants to the States, no less than 23,436 Irish having arrived there during the last fiscal year, while 2602 entered the Philadelphia. Ninety per cent. of the Irish who landed at Boston were between the ages of 14 and 45, five per cent. were under 14 years, and five per cent. over 45. 759 immigrants brought with them sums of £10 or over, and 5333 were possessed of less than £10 each. The total amount of money brought by these immigrants to one American port during the past year was 137,558 dollars, or about £27,512.

Historic Loan Collection

The Historic Loan Collection for the St. Louis Exhibition, which is being arranged by the Department of Agriculture and the Arts and Crafts Society, promises to be a very interesting one, and will no doubt attract a good deal of attention amongst the many Irish-American visitors to the Exhibition. Amongst the exhibits already promised are Colonel Cane's first collection of Irish dishrings, several maces, including that of Drogheda; some of the Royal Irish Academy's MSS., and an interesting collection of old harps and other musical instruments. A collection of relics connected with Irish celebrities is also being got together, and it is hoped that all who can do so will help to make this as complete as possible. Amongst the historic pictures already promised are the best portrait of Stella in existence, taken from the house in which Dean Swift lived, and the property of Mr. Villiers Briscoe, of Navan; Sir Frederick Falkiner's portraits of Swift and Stella; the famous portrait of Mary, Countess of Leitrim, by Lawrence, lent by Mr. John Madden, the fine portrait of Curran, by Hugh Hamilton, from the Mansion House, an early portrait of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, and the portrait of Mrs. Jordan by Hoppner.

Lord Dunraven's Suggestions

Captain Shawe-Taylor, in a letter to the Irish Press, says that Lord Dunraven's suggestions regarding an Irish University have practically solved the difficulty, and had therefore rendered unnecessary the Commission which Captain Shawe-Taylor hoped to call to consider the question. Lord Dunraven recommends the establishment of a new College to be called the King's College, in Dublin. This College will rank as a counterpart of Trinity College, and both will be included in the University of Dublin. Lord Dunraven shows that in such a College there will be no proscription of any kind of learning, nor will it be a College exclusively for Catholics, but a College to every post in which any Protestant might aspire. Such an institution would provide absolutely perfect equality between the Catholics and Protestants of Ireland. The suggestion has the approval of the Protestant Primate and the Protestant Bishop of Killaloe, who represented the Protestant Church of Ireland on the recent University Commission. Finally, the suggestion has been practically accepted by the Catholic Bishops and the Catholic laity as an acceptable compromise. And Parliament has, therefore, an unparalleled opportunity of ending a difficulty which at present serves to keep alive the flames of sectarian jealousy and bigotry both at home and abroad. To any longer deny educational equality to three-fourths of the Irish people is, in Captain Shawe-Taylor's opinion, to deliberately set back the cause of peaceful reform in Ireland, and to drive Ireland once more to the paths of disloyalty, discontent, and despair.

People We Hear About

If I mistake not (writes a correspondent of the 'Freeman's Journal'), the head of the family of Coppinger, of Ballyvolane, is General John Joseph Coppinger, of the United States army. General Coppinger won his first renown as a captain in the Pope's Irish Brigade in 1859. In 1861 he offered his sword to the American Government, and he received a captain's commission. He served all through the Civil War, and obtained the rank of major-general when he was retired four years ago. General Coppinger married the eldest daughter of the American statesman, Mr. James G. Blaine, and James Gillespie Blaine Coppinger, the grandson of the American statesman and the son of the general, will in time be called on to prove himself worthy of a race in which the best blood of Ireland and America flows. Young Coppinger has been educated at the Jesuit College at Georgetown, where he has given golden promise of a brilliant future.

Katherine Tynan, as Mrs. Katherine Hinkson will always be known to a wide circle of readers, celebrated her birthday the other day. She was born at Whitehall, Clondalkin, Co. Dublin, the residence of her father, Mr. Andrew Tynan, who belongs to the class known in Ireland as gentlemen farmers. Whitehall is a charming place, and to it Katherine Tynan loves to return. Her father, the owner of Whitehall, has the hospitable characteristics of his race, and is a fine type of Irishman. Katherine Tynan's husband, whom she married in 1893, is the son of a man of Cork, and a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin. Mr. Hinkson is an author also, and in one of his early books—a humorous account of life in and around Trinity College—he introduced some newspaper scenes, which were capitally done.

The Duke of Norfolk, says the 'Daily News,' retains quite a number of feudal privileges. Whenever he so desires, he may demand from the Committee of Defence and the Inspector-General an escort of cavalry. When an English Sovereign is crowned, the Duke of Norfolk is entitled to receive a golden wine-cup. But, apart from these ceremonial rights, the present Duke, regardless of dress and silent in manner, occupies a position of his own in the public estimation. Certain stories about him have become classical. He has been ordered to get out of the way of his own carriage. Old ladies visiting his grounds have scolded him for not obeying the printed instructions to 'Keep off the grass.' As Postmaster-General he was on one occasion only able to secure attention from a clerk by addressing a telegram to St. Martin's-le-Grand signed 'Norfolk, Postmaster-General.'

Death has claimed a lady in the person of the Marchioness of Queensberry who at one time took a prominent part in Irish affairs. She died at Glen Stuart, Ayman, at the advanced age of 83 years. Born in Ireland of an ancient and distinguished family, she lived for two years in the neighborhood of Bantry, but never afterwards saw the land of her birth. By her mother's side she was descended from the O'Donnells, and her father was descended from the Lord Mayor who brought William the Third into London. She was married at the age of seventeen to the representative of the Douglas of Scotland. She suffered several domestic trials. Her husband was accidentally shot through the heart while treading his native heath. Her second son, Lord Francis Douglas—a bright and brave youth—fell from the Matterhorn, and was killed at the age of eighteen. About the year 1861 she embraced the Catholic faith, and in order to prevent her children being taken from her she was obliged to fly the country and hide abroad. Police were after her everywhere—they went to America, even to Australia, in search of her—at last she was discovered in France. She wrote to the Emperor, Napoleon the Third, an old friend of her family, and he at once assured her that the law of France did not take a child from its mother on any consideration, and that that law would give her protection. She was thus enabled to make her own terms with the Court of Sessions, and so, after a long and painful struggle, the brave, devoted mother triumphed. Her children, therefore, were all Catholics, with the exception of the eldest son, who was at sea at the time. Prior to 1867 her name was practically unknown in Ireland, but in that year took place the execution of Allen, Larkin, and O'Brien at Manchester, and the Marchioness, believing them innocent of the crime imputed to them, entered a strong protest against their condemnation, and showed her practical sympathy by taking charge of their families and providing for them.