

# Irish News

## CLARE—The Mount Shannon Estate

The estate of Mount Shannon, near Limerick, of the Clare family, and which was some time since purchased by the Estates Commissioners for a sum of £10,000 has been divided into holdings for evicted and other tenants, the timber being cut down for the purpose and the grounds cleared for tillage. Mount Shannon was the possession and Limerick residence of Lord Clare, who was so instrumental in promoting the Legislative Union, and some years back was purchased by Mr. Nevins, the American contractor, from whose representatives it passed to the Estates Commissioners. A number of evicted tenants have been already put into occupation of farms on the property, and the Commissioners are now about to erect twelve farmhouses on it.

## CORK—A Relic of the Penal Times

In the Court of Appeal, Dublin, on June 22, the Lord Chancellor delivered judgment in the case of Cussen v. Hynes, in which the validity of two legacies, one to the Superior of Rochestown Convent, County Cork, and the other to the Superior of Holy Trinity Church, Cork, was called in question. Mr. Justice Barton, on the 10th May, declared the bequests to be valid. In delivering judgment, the Lord Chancellor said that the contentions put forward by both legatees, namely, that the legacies did not come within the penal clauses of the Catholic Emancipation Act had failed. They were bound to administer these penal clauses as long as they were on the Statute Book. There was no doubt that the gift to the Superior of Rochestown Convent for the education of members of the community was an illegal gift within the meaning of the Act. As to the legacy of £100 to the Superior of the Holy Trinity Church for that community, they could not yield to the contention that it was a gift to the individual members of the community at the date of the deceased's death. Consequently they were bound to hold that this legacy was also invalid, and they allowed the appeal.

## DUBLIN—Catholic Truth Society

The annual meeting of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland was held in Dublin on June 22. The Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Archbishop of Tuam, presided. A favorable report of the working of the Society during the year was presented, and the meeting was addressed by the Archbishop, the Hon. Judge Carton, Mr. Charles Dawson, Rev. Dr. Langan, Very Rev. Canon McGeeny, Very Rev. Canon Burke, and others.

## The Cost of Hospitals

The cost of Dublin hospitals during the year 1905-6, according to the annual report which has just been issued, was £57,520 0s 11d, and the income £53,803 14s. The total number of patients dealt with was 12,226, of which 11,052 were discharged cured or relieved, and 469 died. The average stay of patients in the hospital was 23.71 days, and the general condition and management of the hospitals on inspection gave great satisfaction.

## The Freedom of the City

A numerously signed requisition has been presented to the Lord Mayor of Dublin calling a special meeting of the Municipal Council for the purpose of conferring the freedom of the city on Dr. Douglas Hyde.

## All Hallows College

The annual ordinations took place at All Hallows College, Drumcondra, on Sunday, June 24. The Right Rev. Dr. O'Connor, Bishop of Armidale, N.S.W., was the consecrating prelate, and he delivered an interesting address, referring mainly to the Church in Australia.

## QALWAY—Fire at Headford

A fire broke out at the Castle, Headford, Tuam, on the night of June 23, and continued till next morning, when practically nothing was left of what had been the residence of the St. Georges (built at the cost of £7000) except the walls. The owner is Mr. James McDonnell, J.P., Tuam.

## KERRY—The Society of Antiquaries

Count Plunkett, presiding in Killarney at the half-yearly meeting of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, said he hoped somebody would revise Smith's 'History of Kerry' as his history of Cork had been revised. Papers were read at the meeting by Professor Butler, M.A., Mr. P. J. Lynch, M.R.I.A. and Rev. J. Carmody, P.P. The title of Father Carmody's paper was 'Notes on Kellagh Abbey, Kilcolman, Milltown, County Kerry.'

## KILDARE—Heir to an Estate

The heir to the White estate, recently advertised for by Mr. Dunne, solicitor, of New York, has been found by him after a long search. He has been traced in the person of James Nolan to the infirmary attached to the Celbridge Workhouse, County Kildare, and is entitled to £30,000.

## LIMERICK—A Solemn Crisis

At the distribution of prizes in Laurel Hill Convent, Limerick, Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer said he had grave doubts as to the English Education Bill being amended in the Catholic interest. His opinion was that the Catholic schools would emerge, if the Bill passed, in a ruinous condition. The present was a time to speak out plainly, for there was a solemn crisis for their religion. His fear was that there might be an anxiety to come to an arrangement with the Liberal Government on the Bill, and he was astonished to read the statement of one of the leading members of the Irish Party that he hoped it might be possible for him and his followers to support the Bill.

## MEATH—Consecration of a Bishop

In the Cathedral, Mullingar, on Sunday, June 24, Dr. Gaughran, for over twenty years pastor of Kells, was consecrated Bishop of the historic diocese of Meath. The ceremony was carried out with great religious splendor. His Eminence Cardinal Logue was the officiating prelate. The members of the Hierarchy present included the Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Archbishop of Tuam; Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne; Most Rev. Dr. Owens, Bishop of Clogher; Most Rev. Dr. Hoare, Bishop of Ardagh; Most Rev. Dr. Henry, Bishop of Down and Connor; Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Elphin; Most Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare; Most Rev. Dr. O'Neill, Bishop of Dromore; Most Rev. Dr. Fogarty, Bishop of Killaloe; Very Rev. P. Finegan, Vicar Capitular, Kilmore; and Right Rev. Dr. Lacy, Bishop of Middlesborough, Rev. Laurence Blady preached the consecration sermon.

## History of the See

The See of Meath dates very far back in ecclesiastical history. In the early ages of the Faith there were several bishoprics in Meath, as Clonard, Duleek, Kells, Trim, Ardbraccan, Dunshaughlin, and Slane, with others of less note. These different Sees were united in Clonard at the Synod of Kells, held in 1152, by Cardinal John Papato, Legate from Pope Eugenius III. to the Irish. St. Finian was the first Bishop of Clonard. He was a renowned scholar, and the College which he founded at Clonard was a famous seat of learning. St. Finian died about the middle of the sixth century and was buried in his own church. His successors continued as Bishops of Clonard until the time of Eugene, who was Bishop towards the close of the twelfth century, but a little before his death he took the title of Bishop of Meath, and it has been since retained. Eugene was succeeded by Simon Rochfort, the first of the English preferred to this See. He was consecrated about the year 1194, and died in the year 1234. He transferred the episcopal seat to Trim. During the 'Reformation' period and the Penal Laws the See was governed—sometimes intermittently and at other times through the favor of the Government—by a Bishop or Vicar-General. Pope Pius VI. appointed as Bishop of Meath Dr. Patrick Joseph Plunkett in the year 1778, and he was consecrated in Paris on the 28th February, 1779. This saintly Bishop ruled the diocese for the long period of 41 years, and died full of merit in January, 1827. Dr. Logan was the next Bishop. He died in 1830, and was succeeded by Dr. Cantwell, whose death took place in 1866. The late reverend Dr. Nulty came next. His death took place in December, 1898.

## TIPPERARY—Alleged Assault

At Tipperary Sessions, before Judge Moore, K.C., and a jury, a farmer named Quinn sued Mr. Manning, N.T., Ballyneal, for £50 damages for assaulting plaintiff's son, a pupil at defendant's school. Plaintiff's case was that Manning knocked down the child and beat it cruelly on the head and back, from the effects of which he was in the hospital for a month. The defence was a denial of the charges. He only slapped the boy on the hand in the ordinary way, and never touched him otherwise. The medical evidence went to show that the boy did not show any ill effects and bore out defendant's statement.

## An All-round Champion

The All-Round Athletic Championship of America was decided at Boston on June 23, under the auspices of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States, and was won by T. F. Kiely, Carrick-on-

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