

Irish News

CARLOW—The Judge's Congratulations

Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, in opening the Spring Assizes at Carlow, said he had again to congratulate the Grand Jury on the peaceable condition of the county.

Ordination

The Most Rev. Dr. Foley, Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin, ordained a number of ecclesiastical students of St. Patrick's College in the Cathedral, Carlow, recently. The Order of Deacon was conferred on the Rev. M. O'Brien (Wellington).

CORK—The Commission of the Peace

Mr. James J. Russell, Mitchelstown, has received notification of his appointment as Justice of the Peace. He is a member of the Cork County Council and Cork Asylum Board, and an extensive corn merchant and auctioneer in Mitchelstown, where the appointment is regarded as a most popular one.

DOWN—A Memorial Hall

Newry was the centre of a great demonstration on March 17 on the occasion of the opening of the John Mitchel Memorial Hall, which has been erected by the Irish National Foresters. The attendance was the largest and most representative at any public demonstration for many years past. Contingents were present from all the adjoining districts, with bands and banners, and the scene, as the procession passed through the principal streets of the town, was very imposing and picturesque, the Emmet costume being worn by many of those taking part.

DUBLIN—University Reform

In the Mansion House, Dublin, on March 14 a public meeting was held to support the Government scheme for University reform. Vigorous speeches approving of the proposals were delivered by Mr. William Magennis, M.A., Sergeant O'Connor, K.C., Surgeon M'Arde, Dr. Cox, and others. The committee of the Catholic Members of Convocation of the Royal University of Ireland, at a meeting on the following day, Dr. J. C. M'Walter, M.A., presiding, adopted resolutions urging on the Government the desirableness of giving effect to their scheme of University settlement at the earliest possible moment, and commending the action of those Senators of the Royal University who approved the suggested settlement as thereby acting in the best interests of the University.

Charitable Bequests

The late Mr. James Considine, of Lambay Castle, Rush, County Dublin, H.M. Consul of Palma, Majorca, a Count of the Holy Roman Empire, among other bequests left the following: £100 to the General Hospital at Salamanca, £50 to the Weymouth Eye Hospital, £25 to the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Language, £25 to the Chief Hospital at Calais, France; £25 to St. Joseph's Little Sisters of the Poor at Notting Hill, London, W.; £100 to the executors who are to distribute the same among such of the testator's struggling tenants as they should determine; £50 for the benefit of poor tenants on his estates in County Tipperary and County Clare; £15 for the poor cottagers at Derk, and £250 to Rev. Daniel Considine (in charity).

St. Patrick's Day

The fact (writes a Dublin correspondent) that Ireland's national festival fell on a Sunday this year enabled many to participate fully in the religious celebrations who would otherwise be debarred from doing so. The result was that everywhere, in city, town, and country, unusually large congregations occupied the various churches which adorn the land, striking witnesses of the Faith which St. Patrick brought to Erin. A leading feature in the religious devotions was the preaching of sermons in Irish, which were followed attentively by those who know the old tongue and with sympathy by those Irish men and women who, owing to no fault of their own, unfortunately do not. The latter are evidently a diminishing quantity, as shown by the number who everywhere took part in the rosaries, the litanies, and the hymns, which were recited or chanted in the sweet tongue of the Gael.

Sympathy with France

A great feature of St. Patrick's Day in Ireland (writes a Dublin correspondent) was the wonderful de-

monstration of sympathy with the persecuted Catholics of France, which was held in Dublin. It was spontaneous in the truest sense of the word, for there was little or no preparation worthy of the name. Indignation at the odious conduct of the infidels and Freemasons, who for the moment rule France, is so strong in the metropolis of Ireland that, at very short notice, in bitterly cold weather, more than fifty thousand Catholics, wearing the Papal colors, assembled in the centre of the city and marched in processional order to the Phoenix Park, where they gave voice to the opinions of the Irish people in no uncertain manner. Along the route 'Faith of Our Fathers,' 'Hail Glorious St. Patrick,' and other appropriate hymns were sung by the processionists and thousands of spectators. The grand gathering of sturdy men who faced the elements was composed largely of members of sodalities, confraternities, boys' brigades, and young men's societies from the city and suburbs, bearing religious banners and emblems symbolising the Faith they hold dear. An impressive sight was that presented when the imposing gathering arrived in the Phoenix Park, only to find the place of meeting crowded with sympathisers no less earnest than they themselves. Three platforms had been erected, but so immense was the concourse of people that not one-tenth of them could hear the speeches that were delivered.

Death of a Fenian Leader

Mr. John O'Leary, the well-known Fenian leader, died at his residence in Dublin on March 16. Mr. O'Leary was born in Tipperary on July 23, 1830, and was educated at the Erasmus Smith Schools there, and later on he entered Trinity College, and studied medicine. Mr. O'Leary was connected with all advanced political movements in Ireland. He joined the Young Irelanders in 1848, and later on the Fenian organisation, and edited for the latter their special organ in the press, 'The Irish People.' In 1865 he was sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude for participation in the movement, but was released after serving five years, and was exiled for the remainder of the period of his sentence. These years of exile were spent mostly in Paris, where Mr. O'Leary engaged in literary work. He published 'Recollections of Fenians and Fenianism' in 1896, 'Young Ireland Old and New' in 1886, as well as several other volumes in the intervening period. When the term of his exile had expired Mr. O'Leary returned to Dublin. He took a keen interest in general literature, and was an indefatigable searcher after rare volumes at book auctions and bookstalls. For some time past he had been in failing health, and his death was not unexpected.

MAYO—Over the Century

During the early part of March two men over 100 years died in Westport district, viz., Mr. James Malley, Roscahill, Kilmena, aged 104 years, and Arthur Browne, Derrygorman, Westport, aged 103 years. Both these men were very active and retained their intellects unimpaired up to a very short time ago.

MONAGHAN—A Memorial

A fine memorial in the shape of a Celtic Cross has just been erected over the grave of the late Mr. Daniel MacAleese, M.P. for North Monaghan.

TIPPERARY—Bequests for the Poor

The late Very Rev. Dean White, Nenagh, by his will left £50 to the Nenagh branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, and £50 each to the parish priests of Tulla, Ennis, Miltown-Maboy, and Kiltrush for the deserving poor. He left his residence in Nenagh to the parish priest for the time being, on the understanding that £20 per year is paid to the Convent Poor Children's Clothing Fund.

WICKLOW—Absence of Crime

The Lord Chief Baron, addressing the Grand Jury at the Wicklow Spring Assizes, said the business to go before them was very light, and the cases were of a light nature. With regard to the state of the county, he thought it strange of a person in the position of a judge who knows nothing personally of the county telling his opinion to gentlemen resident there, who know it perfectly well; but on this occasion he wished to make an exception from his usual course so as to bring before them a statement from the County Inspector, because it was so peculiarly satisfactory. The County Inspector says: 'I have the honor to inform you that every portion of this county is very peaceful and law-abiding, as the accompanying returns will show.' And certainly, said his Lordship, these returns entirely bear out the Constabulary report, and he was happy to congratulate them upon that state of the county, which, for thirty years, had been similar.