

fit for House of Commons work, and the recent attack has made it doubly clear that I have stayed too long already.' Too long, perhaps, for himself; not long enough for the land he loved and served. His friends on this side of the Atlantic wish him many years of health and strength in his Canadian home, whither he carries with him the admiration and gratitude of those in whose service he has labored and brought on ill-health. Devotion like his to fatherland is itself a great and enduring reward, which memory ever renews.

#### LOUTH—Death of a Religious

Sincere regret was expressed on all sides in Drogheda on August 12 when it became known that Sister Vincent Kavanagh had passed away. The deceased lady was in her 73rd year, and had been for 51 years connected with the town of Drogheda. She was descended from a well-known family in the County Wexford, and was a sister of the Rev. P. Kavanagh, O.F.M., Wexford, who is so well known all over Ireland for his deep patriotism. One of her proudest boasts was that she was the grandniece of Rev. Father Michael Murphy, who led the insurgents in the '98 rebellion, and up to the very last she followed the National movement with the keenest interest. In her last illness she was attended by her devoted brother, Rev. P. Kavanagh, O.F.M. It was just a year since she celebrated her golden jubilee, and on that occasion was presented with a golden cross in memory of the event.

#### MAYO—A Subject for Congratulation

Reference was made at Westport Petty Sessions by Mr. Byrne, R.M., on behalf of the magistrates, to the fact that, though some thousands of people had been in the town in connection with the Croagh Patrick Pilgrimage, there was not a single case of drunkenness, and that was something, he said, the people ought to be proud of. He attributed this result to the splendid temperance movement, which had been so rigorously maintained, and the promoters of the movement had every reason to congratulate themselves; and he trusted that at each succeeding pilgrimage they would have the same desirable state of things. Mr. Walsh, J.P., expressed his entire accord with Mr. Byrne's remarks.

#### Resident Medical Superintendent

Dr. F. C. Ellison, who had been for several years Assistant Medical Officer of County Mayo Asylum, Castlebar, has been unanimously elected Resident Medical Superintendent of that institution, in succession to the late Dr. Hatchell.

#### The Birth of the Land League

At a United Irish League meeting in Irishtown, presided over by Mr. P. Hunt, it was unanimously decided, on the motion of Mr. B. Laughlin, that 'as Mr. Davitt's will prevented any monument being erected to his memory, this branch take steps to erect a monument at Irishtown to commemorate the Land League movement founded by Mr. Davitt in '79, which was the means of emancipating the tenant farmers of Ireland from slavery, and that a fund be opened for that purpose and authority given to the officers of this branch of the League to collect subscriptions towards same.'

#### TIPPERARY—Clonmel Horse Show

The second day of the 17th annual Clonmel Horse and Cattle Show was held on August 9 in delightful weather. The attendance was the largest ever witnessed at Clonmel. Much interest was taken in the yearling classes for hunters and carriage horses. Several distinguished visitors were present, amongst them being a Roumanian Prince, who purchased ten valuable animals. The entries on this occasion were considerably in excess of all previous years.

#### WEXFORD—Resignation Withdrawn

A meeting of the North Wexford Executive of the United Irish League was held on August 11, and after discussion Sir Thomas Esmonde withdrew his resignation and signified his intention of continuing a member of the Irish Parliamentary Party.

There is nothing which drives man nearer to the Divinity than to do good.

Invalid: 'Is this a good place for the nerves?' Proprietor of the Health Resort: 'Is it! Why, when I opened up here I only charged 6s a day—now I've got the nerve to charge ten.'

For Children's Hacking Cough at night Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. 1s 6d and 2s 6d....

## People We Hear About

One of the most accurate storm prophets of the world is Father Laurent Gangiotti, director of the Berlin Observatory, Havana. He has for the last thirty-six years been supplying the people of Cuba with timely warning of every threat of a dangerous storm. Seven years ago Father Gangiotti forecasted the storm that devastated Galveston. It was in September, 1900, that a cyclone of little force appeared in the eastern part of the Caribbean Sea, crossed the island of Cuba, passed south of Florida, and on September 8 swept down on the helpless city of Galveston. Father Gangiotti traced in advance the very hours at which the cyclone would reach various points such as Tampa, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas. He was right almost to the letter.

An interesting octogenarian is Mr. T. D. Sullivan, ex-M.P., the doyen of Irish journalists, who is best known in this country as the author of Ireland's National Anthem and the poet of the Parnellite Party. It was as editor and proprietor of the 'Nation' and during his year of office as Lord Mayor of Dublin, that Mr. Sullivan was imprisoned for press offences twenty years ago under Mr. Balfour's Coercion Act. While imprisoned for two months in Tullamore Gaol he wrote a little volume of 'Prison Poems,' which obtained wide celebrity at the time. An earlier volume, 'Green Leaves,' contains his best work. Mr. Sullivan has published several works in poetry and prose, the latter including his 'Reminiscences' and a life of his brother, A.M. Sullivan, a distinguished Parliamentarian, writer, and orator, who died in the early eighties.

The most sudden leap into fame among singers of the year has been that of the young Irish tenor, Mr. John McCormack, who is to take important roles in the Autumn Italian Opera season at Covent Garden. Mr. McCormack, born 23 years ago, at Ahlone, studied for the Civil Service. It was not until 1902 that he seriously turned his attention to music, having in that year, at a friend's advice, taken part in the National Irish Festival, where he won the gold medal for tenors. In 1903 he entered the choir of Marlborough-street Pro-Cathedral, Dublin, and next year Miss Marie Narelle engaged him to sing at the St. Louis Exhibition. A benefit concert given in Dublin, helped him to go to Italy two years ago, where he studied in Milan with Sabatini. His forthcoming appearance will signalise him as probably the youngest tenor to treat the Covent Garden Boards in Italian opera.

Mr. J. Patrick Murphy, K.C., who died recently was for upwards of twenty years a leader at the English bar on the Common Law side, from which he retired in 1897, having realised a large fortune. He was the son of Mr. Patrick Murphy, Q.C., a leader of the Irish Bar in the forties of the last century, and was born in Dublin on St. Patrick's Day, 1831. He was one of the counsel for the 'Times' in the Pigott Commission of 1887-8, and his portly presence was the subject of some of the wittiest of the cartoons of the late Sir F. Lockwood, Q.C., and are generally designated by the description of 'The Murphy Corporation.' Many of Sir Frank Lockwood's cartoons during the Pigott Commission of Judges, counsel, witnesses, and 'incriminated' members of Parliament are preserved in the Mansion House, Dublin, and as the late Mr. Murphy was a favourite involuntary 'sitter' for Sir Frank Lockwood his form and features are frequently represented in the series, so that his memory will not be wholly obliterated in his native city. Mr. Murphy, who was a zealous Catholic, was an old Stonyhurst boy.

The fact that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, who celebrated his seventy-first birthday last month, is not only Premier, but also Father of the House of Commons invites comparison with the ages of other Prime Ministers of the past. Mr. Balfour is only fifty-nine, at which age, curiously enough, Mr. Gladstone first succeeded to the Premiership. It was not until nearly thirty years later that the 'G.O.M.' passed away, and broke the record which had been held by Lord Sidmouth, who died at the age of over eighty-six. Other octogenarian Premiers were Earl Russell, who nearly completed his eighty-sixth year, and to the last, strenuously advocated popular measures, in spite of the nickname of 'Finality Jack' which was bestowed upon him and his declaration in favor of 'resting and be thankful'; the 'Iron Duke,' who lived to celebrate his eighty-second birthday, and Lord Palmerston and Earl Grey, who both died at eighty-one. Of the other Prime Ministers of the Queen who are dead, Disraeli's age was seventy-seven, the Earl of Aberdeen's seventy-six, the Earl of Derby's seventy, Viscount Melbourne's sixty-nine, and Sir Robert Peel's sixty-two.

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