

Irish News

ANTRIM—A New Church

Owing to the largely increasing Catholic population in the Ballyhackamore district of Belfast, it has been found necessary to build a new church, and on August 24, in the midst of a large assembly of parishioners and friends, the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new church of St. Columbkille, Knock, was performed by his Lordship the Most Rev. Dr. Henry, Bishop of Down and Connor.

DOWN—The last Members of a Catholic Family

At Holywood, County Down, on Sunday, August 25, the deaths occurred of Dr. Murney and his sister, Miss Isabella Murney, within a few hours of each other. Both had attained an advanced age. Dr. Murney was 25 years ago one of the leading physicians in Belfast. Miss Murney had always been identified with charitable work in Belfast and Holywood. They were the last members of one of the oldest Catholic families in Ulster.

DUBLIN—The Parnell Statue

Mr. Redmond, in a press interview, has declared that the Parnell statue, by St. Gaudens, which is to be erected in Dublin, is a perfect realisation of Parnell's appearance, and a work of art second to none in Europe.

The Horse Show

The annual national exhibition, known as the Horse Show, was held this year under the most favorable conditions, the weather being perfect. The attendance was between 50,000 and 60,000, and included visitors not alone from all parts of the United Kingdom, but also from Italy, Austria, Germany, France, Belgium. The exhibition of horses was for number and quality equal, if not superior, to any yet seen at this favorite show.

Death of a Jesuit Father

A wide circle of friends (says the 'Freeman's Journal') will hear with deep regret the announcement of Father Dalton's death, which occurred at 1 o'clock a.m. on Wednesday, August 21. He had completed his eighty-first year three months ago, having been born at Waterford on May 4, 1826. He was educated at Clongowes College, and when 19 years old he entered the novitiate of the Society of Jesus, in which his brother Joseph preceded him by nine years, as he had exactly the same start of him in life itself. About the same time two sisters became nuns in the Presentation Convent at Maynooth. For twenty years Father James Dalton was a devoted and beloved master at Clongowes and Belvedere, forming friendships with his pupils which lasted through life. For more than twenty years he labored zealously at St. Francis Xavier's, Gardiner street, Dublin, the house in which he has just died. For some years, indeed, his work had been almost confined to patient suffering. He bore his tedious martyrdom with great courage and cheerfulness, trying to help till the end those who continually appealed to his charity, knowing of old the tenderness of his heart and his eagerness to aid those in trouble. He was a man of very refined taste, and a singularly faithful and devoted friend; and his memory will long be cherished tenderly by all who had the privilege of knowing him intimately.

FERMANAGH—Church Dedicated

The beautiful new Church of the Holy Cross, Lissankea, County Fermanagh, was dedicated on August 18 by Right Rev. Mgr. Smollen, P.P., V.G., Dean of Clogher, in the unavoidable absence of the Bishop of the diocese, Most Rev. Dr. Owens. The preacher on the occasion was the Very Rev. Father Malachy, G.P., Ardoyne, Belfast, who delivered an eloquent and impressive sermon.

KERRY—Tribute to a Priest

On the evening of August 21 a very large meeting of the inhabitants of Killarney was held in the U.D.C. Office, Mr. D. M. Moriarty, chairman Kerry County Council, presiding, for the purpose of presenting an illuminated address to the Rev. C. J. Brennan, who has been promoted to the parish of Tralee.

Neglected Industries

In the recent notes on flax-growing in the South (writes a Kerryman in the 'Freeman's Journal') no reference was made to a mixed textile used for sheeting which was made in this county. It was made just like plain poplin, except that the warp was of linen,

not silk, thread. The shuttle thread or woof, that ran from side to side of the fabric, was of wool. The woolen thread did not show at all; the fine linen threads covered it completely, and, on an outside view, it appeared to be a thick heavy linen cloth. It made a very warm bed covering on winter nights. The flax and wool threads were both homespun, and the sheets were woven on the old linen handlooms. I have not myself known it to be used for anything else except sheeting, though it is strange if it was not made into clothing also. Our correspondent remembers when the Kerry women spun sewing thread—housewife thread. He points out that many trades and employments depended upon flax-growing and spinning and weaving. The clothing and making-up trades flourished at that time, as a direct consequence, of course; but carpentry, wheelwrights, and other trades, also benefited indirectly from it.

LIMERICK—An Appreciation

Rev. W. Casey was on August 25 presented with an address from those tenants on the Ellis estate, Abbeyfeale, who had been under threat of eviction, but whose cases, on the intervention of Father Casey, had been settled through the Estates Commissioners.

A Centenarian

The death has occurred at Athea, County Limerick, of Mrs. Sullivan, who had attained the age of 101 years. She enjoyed splendid health almost down to near the end, and was able to go to Mass up to April last.

Prison Converted into a Factory

Owing to the Government not requiring it any longer the old city prison has been leased to Mr. Thomas Geary, who will use it as a biscuit factory.

LONGFORD—Parliamentary Representative

Mr. John Phillips, a veteran local Nationalist, was selected as Parliamentary candidate for South Longford, at a Nationalist Convention held in the Temperance Hall, Longford, under the presidency of Mr. J. P. Farrell, M.P. The only other candidate was Mr. Patrick McKenna, also a local man, who is still in his twenties. Mr. Phillips signed the Party pledge, and said that South Longford, by its action that day, had laid down the principle of rewarding long and faithful service in the National cause. He was not much of a speaker, and thought he would best serve the interests of his constituents by voting in every division possible with Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party.

MEATH—Home Industries

At a recent meeting of the Navan Board of Guardians a letter was read from Mrs. Sylvia P. Everard, Randlestown, President County Meath Home Industries Society, in reply to remarks made at the last meeting of the Board as to the promotion of home industries in the county. Mrs. Everard wrote: 'It seems incomprehensible to me that the members of your Board should profess to be ignorant of the existence of the County Meath Home Industries Society, which was started nearly ten years ago for the purpose of giving employment to the women and girls living at home, in their spare time, and thereby teach them the value of self-help. We have taught, and are teaching, several hundred girls in various branches of work, such as crochet, Carrickmacross and Limerick laces, drawn work, hand-knitting, etc. We started a crochet lace class in Navan in 1901, but had to close it owing to the difficulty of getting a sufficient number of girls to attend. We have paid out several thousand pounds in wages since our society was established. We have customers all over the world, and, having always insisted that nothing but first-class work should be sent out, the name of the County Meath Home Industries is a guarantee for the quality of the work. The society is worked on co-operative principles, and the workers receive the entire net profits, after providing for an adequate reserve.' Concluding, Mrs. Everard said 'a visit to their depot would be an object lesson as to what Meath girls could do.'

TIPPERARY—A Priest Passes Away

The death of the Rev. E. Kerick, pastor of the united parishes of Borrisoleigh and Leigh, took place on August 19, at the age of 67 years. The deceased was a member of an old and highly respected family in the parish of Fethard. After his ordination to the priesthood he was stationed for a time at Templemore. During that time he took a prominent part in the building of the Church of the Sacred Heart there. The late Dr. Croke promoted him from Templemore to the curacy of the city of Cashel, and next appointed him parish priest of Borrisoleigh and Leigh in 1889.