

Irish News

ANTRIM—An Octogenarian

The death occurred on November 7 at the Holy Cross Monastery, Ardoyne, of the Rev. Brother Michael, whose venerable figure has for many years been familiar to worshippers at that church. The deceased had attained the age of 85, and was 59 years in the Order, having joined at Aston Hall in Staffordshire, which was then the novitiate house of the Passionists at a time when the journey there from Ireland occupied five days. He was born in Dublin in 1822, and received the habit in 1848, arriving at Aston Hall on the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel.

Death of a Priest

The news of the death of the Very Rev. P. Farrelly, V.F., pastor of Ballymoney, which occurred on November 9 at Nazareth House, Ballynaveigh, was received with sincere regret throughout the whole of Antrim. Father Farrelly was born at Mount Nugent in the diocese of Meath about 69 years ago. When the signs of a vocation to the priesthood manifested themselves, his parents sent him to the Diocesan College of Navan to prosecute the preliminary studies. These were perfected at the College of La Croix in France, and in 1863 he entered the Grand Séminaire of Limoges. When his theological course was completed, there being no vacancy in his native diocese, Dr. Nulty, Bishop of Meath, furnished him with commendatory letters to Dr. Dorrian, Bishop of Down and Connor, and by him Father Farrelly was ordained, together with Very Rev. M. McCashin, P.P., V.F., Lisburn, on September 22, 1867.

ARMAGH—An Inheritance

Matthew Mills, a news-vendor of Keady, County Armagh, Ireland, came in for an inheritance of over £15,000 by the death of an only brother in Melbourne. He died suddenly a few weeks after hearing of his good fortune. His brother and sister were burned to death in August last in a Melbourne suburb.

CLARE—Encouraging Words

The Right Rev. Dr. Fogarty, Bishop of Killaloe, in the course of a letter to the secretary of a Nationalist demonstration held in a part of his diocese on November 10, wrote in part as follows:—I look upon a pledge-bound Parliamentary Party, governed by the sound and sensible principle of majority rule, as the one effective engine we possess to maintain unity in our National ranks, and to win for Ireland the root-remedy for all her grievances—the right to manage her own affairs. The National Party, under the distinguished leadership of Mr. John Redmond, has by hard work and faithful service won a notable series of important successes for the national policy in the past. The session which lies before our representatives is an arduous and anxious one, but I have no doubt they shall be found equal to the occasion, notwithstanding the powerful opposition which they have to encounter. It is our duty to back them up by a powerful organisation at home. Therefore, if we desire to win Home Rule, a University Bill, or any one of the other great measures on the national programme, we must be prepared to support the National Movement by our sympathy and our money, and to set our face against dissension in our own ranks.

County Court Judgeship

The Lord Lieutenant has appointed Mr. Mathias M'Donnell Bodkin, K.C., to be County Court Judge and Chairman of Quarter Sessions of and for the county of Clare.

DUBLIN—Irish Industries

At the inaugural meeting of University College Literary and Historical Society, Stephen's Green, Mr. Maurice F. Healy, son of Mr. Healy, solicitor, Cork, and formerly member for that city, delivered an able address entitled 'The Irish Exodus.' The speakers on the occasion included the Bishop of Raphoe, the Chief Secretary, Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., Mr. Arthur Cleary, B.L., and Very Rev. W. Delany, S.J., who presided. Dr. O'Donnell, in the course of an able address, said no thorough remedy would ever be found for the Irish exodus until native government was established in the country. People might speak of Grattan's Parliament as if it was no good for industry. If they travelled to the most remote shores of Ireland they would find ruins there still of curing stations, erected by Grattan's Parliament to enable Irish fishermen to cure fish. Pending the restoration of a native Parliament, however, his Lordship said something could be done to develop the material and mental resources of Ireland.

GALWAY—A New Church

A great event in connection with the Catholic Church in the West was signalled on Sunday, November 10, when the solemn dedication and opening ceremony of St. Joseph's Church, Clifden, County Galway, took place.

KING'S COUNTY—Political Partisans on the Bench

In the course of a speech at Birr on November 10, Mr. John Redmond, M.P., dealt with the exhibition of political bias by the members of the judicial Bench. He said:—In England men are appointed to the Bench for their professional fitness and qualities; in Ireland, as we know, under successive Governments, men are appointed to the Bench simply for political services; and the more bitter partisan a man is—the more outspoken an enemy he is to the rights of the people—the more certain he has been, in the past, to find his way to the Bench. In England, when a politician is promoted to the Bench, except in the rarest cases, he leaves his politics behind him; but in Ireland, all through the century, and down to this very moment, the Irish people are familiar with the political judge, the partisan on the Bench, with the inevitable result that the mass of the people have no confidence whatever in the impartiality of the tribunal. Now I need not go back to the past for an illustration. Only the other day the Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, in open court, attacked the Attorney-General because he did not prosecute certain prominent politicians. I exceedingly regret that the Attorney-General did not respectfully ask his lordship to mind his own business. It was no business of his. The duty and the grave responsibility of deciding who shall be prosecuted for political offences, and who shall not, rests on the Attorney-General and the Executive Government of the day; and for a judge on the Bench to attempt to influence, or, as it might be said, to intimidate, the Attorney-General and the Executive Government in the discharge of this delicate and responsible duty is a scandal which, in my opinion, could take place nowhere in the civilised world except in Ireland. Just think for a moment what a serious matter this might be. Suppose to-morrow that the Lord Chief Justice goes down to his Court and orders the Attorney-General to prosecute me, and suppose the Attorney-General takes his orders and does prosecute me, then I am to be sent for trial before the very judge who has ordered my indictment; and the Irish people, in the face of such things, are blamed because they have no confidence in the administration of justice.

LEITRIM—Tenants Purchase their Holdings

The tenants on the estate of Mr. John T. Hinds, situated at Ballykittyfeea, near Cloone, County Leitrim, have agreed to purchase their holdings. On their behalf the Rev. Father O'Reilly arranged the terms of the sale with the agent, Mr. D. Kerigan. Mr. Hinds consents to accept three months' rent in lieu of all rent and arrears up to November 1, 1907, and to sell to first-term tenants at a reduction of 7s 6d in the £, equal to 19½ years' purchase, and to second-term tenants, at a reduction of 5s 6d in the £, equal to 22½ years' purchase.

Land Purchase

The tenants on Colonel Forbes' estate (Annduff), County Leitrim, have signed their purchase agreements on the following terms:—First term tenants, a reduction of 7s in the £ (20 years' purchase); second term tenants, 5s in the £ (23 years' purchase) and the half-year's rent due forgiven. Mr. Crozier, solicitor, Dublin, acted for the landlord, and Mr. B. Fox, Carrick-on-Shannon, for the tenants.

LIMERICK—Appointed Crown Solicitor

Mr. James Gaffney, who has been appointed Crown Solicitor for Limerick, is a brother of Mr. St. John Gaffney, American Consul-General at Dresden.

TIPPERARY—An Appreciation

At the annual meeting of the County Tipperary Protestant Orphan Society, held at Nenagh, the Right Rev. Dr. Archdale, in the course of his address, said he was very much in favor of higher education for Catholics, and he thought every step should be taken to give the children of their Church that education that would enable them to compete with their Catholic brethren in obtaining respectable and remunerative positions. They in Ireland were helped by their Catholic neighbors in the great fight for higher education. Dr. Archdale paid high tribute to the education given by the Christian Brothers and convent schools in Ireland.

A Successful Football Team

Clonmel High School possesses one of the most remarkable junior Gaelic football teams in Ireland. It is