

Irish News

ARMAGH—Death of a Canon

The announcement of the death of Very Rev. Canon O'Brien, P.P., Loughgall, at the Parochial House, Loughgall, caused deep regret. The deceased Canon, who was highly esteemed throughout the archdiocese of Armagh, had been in failing health for a considerable time past. He bore his illness with the most edifying Christian fortitude, and with that self-sacrificing regard for duty which characterised him throughout life, he was always to be found at his post.

DERRY—A Venerable Religious

On December 10, at the Long Tower Church, Derry, Burying-ground, the interment took place of the remains of Mother Mary Augustine, an esteemed and accomplished member of the Sisters of Mercy community of St. Peter's Convent, Derry. Deceased lady, who was connected with the convent for over half a century, belonged to an old Derry family of high esteem.

DUBLIN—Acknowledged his Error

Professor Beare, of Trinity College, in the course of a letter to the 'Statist' recently, asserted that the staff of Maynooth College was composed entirely of Catholic priests. Such, of course, is not a fact, and the Professor has made the amende honorable by addressing a letter to the press in which he acknowledges his error and says, he has learned that there are several laymen of distinction in literature and science on the staff of Maynooth College.

Viceregal Visit

Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Aberdeen paid a visit on December 8 to Artane Industrial Schools, and were conducted over the institution by the Rev. Brother Ryan, the manager. They expressed the pleasure which they had derived from the visit.

The Christian Brothers

Very Rev. Dr. Butler, who preached in St. Paul's Church, Arran Quay, Dublin, on Sunday, December 7, on behalf of the Christian Brothers' schools of the parish, paid tribute to the members of this great teaching Order. If they were in other countries where the fight was raging fiercely with regard to moral and religious education, they would, he said, realise what was being done. Not only in Ireland, but all over the world, the preacher had seen their work. In Australia, in America, in India, in Gibraltar, and in England he saw the enormous amount of good they were doing. They were missionaries of the highest and most sterling kind, because they were training youth in intellect, in morals, and in religion. He had often pleaded for them in many lands, and he always did it with the greatest possible pleasure, because he recognised the enormous amount of good these men were doing to the Catholic Church and to the cause of Ireland the world over. Wherever the Irish Christian Brothers were, there also was the spirit of Irish Nationality as well as of religion.

The Manufacture of Poplin

One of the specialties of Dublin, made nowhere else in the world, though even here it now employs but few people, is the making of poplin. This industry was introduced by the Huguenots in 1693. The material is made of specially pure and good silk as the warp, and very fine wool as the weft. Fifteen hundred or more looms used to be employed, but fashions have changed, though the material is more beautiful than ever, both in color and texture. Its nature does not, however, admit of very great variety in patterns, as only the silk warp must appear on the surface. It is somewhat costly. The same kind of looms are employed as were in use one hundred years ago, and are worked with or without a fly. Hardly any machinery is used except those handlooms and the Jacquard apparatus for making patterns.

The Late Lord Gormanston

The late Viscount Gormanston, of Gormanston Castle, Balbriggan, County Dublin, who died on October 29 last, aged seventy years, left estate valued at £13,672 18s 11d in the United Kingdom, exclusive of the value of his real estate in Ireland. Viscount Gormanston left to the parish priests of Stamullen and Nobber £50 each for Masses, and £50 each for the poor.

Trinity College

According to Dr. Trail, Provost of Trinity College, that seat of learning is to be preserved intact in its

constitution and endowments, although an effort will be made during the coming session of Parliament to provide equality in educational matters for Catholics and Protestants. It is to be hoped (writes a Dublin correspondent) that the Chief Secretary may succeed in an undertaking which has baffled the powers of many well-meaning politicians and brought to grief not a few. It is well known that Trinity lives on the confiscated property of Catholics and the rack-rents extracted from tenant farmers on estates of which the rightful owners were deprived in evil days. Secure in their ill-gotten-gains, the upholders of Trinity College, strenuously objected to Catholics obtaining facilities for University education. Owing to the force of public opinion, however, a prospect arose within recent years of Trinity being compelled to share its endowments and advantages with the great majority of Irishmen. This fact, and this alone, brought the monopolists to a sense of justice for the time being. Now that the Ascendancy party is, according to Dr. Trail, secure again, it is to be hoped that Mr. Birrell's scheme will not be injuriously affected by opposition.

GALWAY—A Hearty Reception

Rev. Thomas Burke, P.P., Kinvara, County Galway, met with a hearty reception from his parishioners on arriving from Bournemouth after a long illness. He was presented with an address and a purse of sovereigns as a token of the regard in which he is held by the people.

A Popular Pastor

At the presbytery, Corofin, parish of Cummer, a numerous deputation from the North Galway United Irish League Executive waited recently on the Rev. Mark Eagleton, President of the Executive, and presented him with a beautifully illuminated address bearing his portrait and tendering congratulations and many good wishes on his return home from France, greatly improved in health.

KILKENNY—Bravery Recognised

The Royal Humane Society has presented Mr. Patrick Dooley, Rosebercon, County Kilkenny, Ireland, with a medal and certificate for his heroic act in saving another life from the waters of the River Barrow at New Ross. Mr. Dooley began his life-saving career at the early age of thirteen years. Between that time and the 10th of March last, he rescued fifteen persons from drowning in the River Barrow, New Ross, the Rivers Nore, Suir, Shannon, from the Mersey at Liverpool, and from the waters of Lake Michigan. His last successful and heroic rescue of a young man named Nolan was from the River Barrow at New Ross. Mr. Dooley is in his 58th year, and at the time was suffering from a maimed foot. He jumped off the battlement of the bridge into the strong tide, a distance of about twenty-four feet. The young man had disappeared, and Mr. Dooley had to dive for him. Twice he dived and failed; a third time he descended as with a last despairing effort, and forth from the waters brought the fifteenth life.

LIMERICK—A Crimean Chaplain

Our Home exchanges report the death of Father William J. Ronan, S.J. It took place at Mungret College, Limerick, on December 11. Father Ronan was in his 83rd year. He made his ecclesiastical studies in Maynooth. He joined the Jesuits in 1850. He was one of the Catholic chaplains during the Crimean War.

An Irish Journalist Passes Away

The death at Bournemouth is announced of Mr. Francis John Joseph O'Neill, a distinguished Irish-American journalist. Mr. O'Neill was aged 47 years, and was the eldest son of Mr. Michael O'Neill, of Limerick. He began his journalistic career on the 'Belfast Morning News,' and later emigrated to Washington, where he continued his career as a journalist and qualified for the Bar, but never practised. He was for a time managing editor of the 'Washington Post' and also of the 'Washington News'; but later became assistant manager to Mr. Frohman, and managed several of the Frohman theatrical companies. During the past four years he was on the staff of the Associated Press of America, and for the last year and a half was editor in the London Bureau of the agency.

Bogus Irish Hams

At a meeting of the Council of the Dublin Industrial Development Association the secretary reported that it had come to his knowledge that hams and bacon were being imported into Ireland from different parts of the world for the purpose of being dressed here and branded with an Irish brand in order to secure ready sale in the French market. It was pointed out that the only way of preventing the injustice was