

now the Catholic Bishop joins with the people and the priests of ultra-Catholic Carlow in hailing him their champion and representative.

The Brigidine Nuns

The Brigidine Order (writes a Dublin correspondent) has suffered a heavy loss by the death of Mother Gertrude Kelly, the Superioress, whose obsequies took place in Tullow, Co. Carlow, on January 24. Born in Enniscorthy some twenty-five years ago, she entered the novitiate at an early age. After filling with credit various positions, she was appointed Superioress-General in 1889, a position which she held with great credit until her death. Under her administration the Order has flourished not alone in Ireland, but in Australia and New Zealand, where many branches have been established, and where no doubt Mother Gertrude's death will be mourned by her Sisters in religion as deeply as at home in Ireland.

DUBLIN—The University Question

At the annual dinner of past and present students of Cecilia street Catholic University School of Medicine, references were made by several speakers to Mr. Birrell's promised Irish University Bill. Dr. Cox, in the course of an eloquent address, said the cause of University education was a great cause with an honored past. In the annals of science and literature no profession stood higher than the profession of medicine, and Ireland occupied a foremost place in the realms of both medicine and surgery. In the dark hours of the penal days, when the same price was put upon the head of a priest as upon that of a wolf, men like O'Curry, who was distinguished not alone in medicine, but in literature, kept the flag flying. They were told they were too fond of living in the past, but they would be an unworthy and degenerate nation if they did not remember the men who gave their lives and abilities and talents for their people in the former times. They sought no party triumph, no ascendancy over any class or creed, but they believed they were the equals of any and were determined to secure fair play.

LEITRIM—Parliamentary Representative

After the failure of the Liberal Government's Irish Council Bill (says an exchange), Mr. C. J. Dolan, member for Leitrim North, joined the extreme Sinn Feiners, who have annexed and made ridiculous a great name, and preached the policy of the Grand Sulk, namely, that the Irish Party should refuse to go near Westminster. So confident was he that the feeling of the nation was with him that he offered to resign his seat and re-contest it against any comer. But he cooled on his proposal, and it was only after some goading that he stood to his promise. On the issue whether he should be elected to the House of Commons, in order not to put foot inside its doors, Mr. Dolan, who was returned unopposed at the general election was beaten by 3103 votes to 1157. There is, therefore, no need for him to get into Parliament in order to stay out of it. Mr. P. A. Meehan is the new member.

TIPPERARY—An Appointment

The Rev. T. B. Power, Professor, St. Patrick's College, Thurles, has been appointed by his Grace the Archbishop of Cashel to be Vice-President, in succession to the Rev. Innocent Ryan, appointed Archdeacon of Fethard.

WESTMEATH—A Centenarian

Mrs. Margaret Fagan, of Cummingstown, Westmeath, has just passed away at the age of 104. She was of a bright and cheery disposition, and could recount many historical events. She proudly boasted that she never suffered a day's illness until extreme old age overtook her.

WICKLOW—An Appreciation

Mr. A. E. Cocking, managing director of Kynoch, Ltd., who had been in Ireland during the last week in January, in connection with the project which the firm has in hand for the starting of Irish industries, visited Arklow, and availed of the occasion to make a presentation to the Very Rev. James Dunphy, P.P., in honor of his golden jubilee. The presentation was made on behalf of the directors of Kynoch, Ltd., and consisted of a handsome silver cup, beautifully finished. Whilst this token from the directors of Kynoch, Ltd., of their esteem for him is highly appreciated by Father Dunphy, the action of the firm has also met with the appreciation of the people of Arklow. The inscription ran:—'To the Very Rev. James Dunphy, P.P., Arklow, from Kynoch, Ltd., June 8, 1907.' Accompanying the cup was a very complimentary letter.

People We Hear About

The Hon. John Leahy has been elected Speaker of the Queensland Legislative Assembly. Mr. Leahy is one of the best Constitutional authorities in the House. He is a Cork man, has been in Queensland since 1875, and in Parliament since 1893.

Sir Robert Hart, the 'Grand Old Man of China,' has at last resigned his office of Inspector General of the Chinese Imperial Customs, and is on his way home. For considerably over fifty years Sir Robert, who is an Irishman, has served China, and it may be safely said that the magnificent administrative work he has carried out there has seldom been equalled in modern times.

Monsignor Amette, who succeeds Cardinal Richard as Archbishop of Paris, is in the 58th year of his age, having been born at Douville (Eure) in 1850. He made his ecclesiastical studies at St. Sulpice, and was ordained priest in 1873. He was appointed Bishop of Bayeux in 1898, and Coadjutor, with right of succession, to Cardinal Richard in February, 1906. He has had a very difficult position to fill since he came to Paris, but all sides agree now that he has filled it with marked ability and success.

Miss Louise de la Ramee was of mixed English and French parentage. 'Ouida' was the nursery version of her baptismal name, and she took it for a pseudonym. She conquered her public with her very first book, and retained her vogue until the nineties were well advanced. The measure of her success may be partly gauged from the fact that, as long ago as 1865 she received the compliment of parody by Sir Francis Burnand in 'Punch.' Ultimately a new public with other tastes grew up, while the quality of her work remained pretty much what it had always been.

The father of Mr. Walter McMurrough Kavanagh, who has been selected as the Nationalist representative of Carlow in the House of Commons, was one of the most remarkable men who was ever returned to the British Parliament. Born destitute of arms or legs, the older Kavanagh was a man of such resolute purpose that he became almost independent of his natural shortcomings. He could ride to hounds with the reins caught in his mouth. In Parliament, he was carried in and out of the House.—His political capacity made him a leader in the Irish landlord ranks in his day. If the son has much of the quality of mind and will which distinguished the father, he should make his mark at St. Stephen's.

Mr. Haldane, Secretary for War, tells a very funny story against himself. On a week-end visit the other day he arrived at the country station, and found that his host's carriage had left with the other guests. In the yard was the station 'bus, in which sat a solitary passenger—a lady's maid. Mr. Haldane got in, and the other occupant of the 'bus at once entered into affable conversation with him. 'My bit of stuff,' she said, 'hates going to Lady —, and she's only doing so because she fears Mr. Haldane's going to be there, and she wants him to give her son a billet.' 'Oh, indeed,' replied the War Secretary. 'Yes; and she thinks she will get it, too.' After a time Mr. Haldane, getting bored by his companion's flow of language, opened the omnibus door when climbing the hill. He was about to alight when the lady's maid, placing her hand on his arm, said, 'Oh, no, you don't, till you've paid 'arf the fare.'

Sir Antony MacDonnell, who is credited with the desire to relinquish the Under-Secretaryship of Ireland, has now served for more than five years in the office. When he accepted the position in 1902 Sir Antony gave up, as Lord Lansdowne stated in the House of Lords, not only a comfortable post in the Indian Council, but the Governorship of Bombay, for the sake of rendering some service to his own people. Some good stories (writes a correspondent) have been told about his early days in that office. He told Lord Ashbourne, the Tory Lord Chancellor of Ireland under the last Administration, that he believed three-fourths of the trouble in Ireland was due to officialism. The Lord Chancellor was aghast. 'I'm astounded,' he said, 'that you should say such a thing to me.' 'Oh! I've said that to a bigger man than you,' retorted Sir Antony, with his comprehensive smile. 'Who was that?' asked Lord Ashbourne, incredulous. 'The King,' said Sir Antony. The rest was silence.

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