

## Irish News

### ANTRIM—Shipbuilding in Belfast

Messrs. Harland and Wolff secured the 'blue riband' of the shipbuilding world for 1908. The output of 106,528 tons of shipping, representing an indicated horse-power of 65,840, far exceeds any other firm's record. Belfast has been outside the zone of the labor troubles experienced in the British yards. There is a sort-of Home Rule in this matter, says a critic, so far as Ireland is concerned, and Belfast has largely been the gainer by it. In the second place, Messrs. Harland and Wolff build for the North Atlantic Combine, and it would be strange indeed if one or other of the companies forming part of that great organisation did not make substantial demands on the resources of the Queen's Island works.

### CORK—A Satisfactory State of Affairs

It is satisfactory to hear of one Irish district (says the *Irish Weekly*) where the people are fairly content because they have work to do. Writing to the Council of the Cork Industrial Development Association, a firm of woollen manufacturers in the village—or, rather, town—of Douglas say: 'You will be pleased to hear that there are no unemployed in Douglas, and so far as we are aware, there is not a single case of distress in the district.' Douglas here referred to is a place three miles away from the southern capital. Its population in 1901 was 764, and this has probably been doubled since the last census. Two thriving woollen factories not only give vigor and health to the veins of the village, but give good employment to many men and girls in the surrounding rural districts who would otherwise be compelled to emigrate, or to swell the ranks of those fiercely competing for meagre wages in Cork City.

### Destruction of a Catholic Hall

Early on the morning of December 28 a fire, which threatened to have most disastrous consequences, was discovered in the Cork Catholic Young Men's Society's Hall, and before effective measures to check its course could be organised, it destroyed a great part of the building.

### DUBLIN—A Climb Down

Owing, no doubt, to pressure of public opinion, the committee of the Royal Dublin Society's Library have climbed down, and taken in *The Making of Ireland and Its Undoing*, by Mrs. Green, which they refused admission to under circumstances which called forth widespread condemnation.

### KILDARE—A Provincial Passes Away

On December 22 there passed away at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin, the Rev. Brother Anthony J. Flood, Provincial of the De La Salle Brothers in Ireland and England. Brother Anthony was a native of Thomastown, near Rathangan, County Kildare, where his family is one of the most respected in the neighborhood. He joined the De La Salle Order in London over thirty years ago, and passed his first years of religious life at St. Joseph's College, Clapham. Since that time he filled with credit many positions of trust in his Order, and he directed the College of the Brothers in London and was subsequently for many years at the head of St. Joseph's Industrial School, Manchester. It was under his direction that this school acquired the distinguished place it has since held among institutions of its class in the North of England. In 1892; at the early age of 35, Brother Anthony was appointed Provincial of the Order in Ireland.

### LIMERICK—Extension of Tillage

At a meeting of the County Limerick Committee of Agriculture and Technical Instruction, Rev. J. Nolan, Cappamore, presiding, a scheme for the extension of tillage in the country was, on the motion of Mr. John Coleman, seconded by Mr. T. W. W. Bennett, unanimously adopted. The scheme provides (1) that a grant of £1 10s be made to farmers whose valuation does not exceed £40, and who increase their tillage by one Irish acre; (2) that a grant of 15s be made to farmers whose valuation does not exceed £10, and who increase their tillage by half an Irish acre. On the suggestion of Lord Emly, it was also decided—'That ten prizes of 7s 6d each in each of the large rural districts, and five of the same amount in each of the smaller rural districts be given by competition to the laborers who have cultivated the whole of their plots in the best manner.'

### LONGFORD—Member of Parliament Sent to Prison

The prosecution of Mr. J. P. Farrell, M.P., under an Act of Edward III., for having published certain reports in his paper, resulted in a conviction. Mr. Farrell was ordered to find bail in a personal surety of £200 and two

sureties of £100 each, to keep the peace for twelve months, or in default to go to gaol for six months, without hard labor. He refused to give bail, and was taken into custody and lodged in Kilmainham Prison.

### MONAGHAN—A Golden Jubilee

On January 6 the Sisters of St. Louis celebrated the golden jubilee of the foundation of their Congregation in Monaghan, for it was on the Feast of the Epiphany, in the year 1859, that the first St. Louis nuns arrived in Monaghan.

### TIPPERARY—A Veteran Nationalist

The death is reported of a veteran Nationalist in the person of Mr. Jeremiah Condon, father of Alderman T. J. Condon, M.P., who passed away at his residence, Clonmel, on December 30.

### Death of a Religious

Far beyond the boundaries of the archdiocese of Cashel, in which Doon is situated (says the *Freeman's Journal*), the news of the demise of Mother Mary Catherine Ryan will be received with feelings of the deepest sorrow. A member of an old and illustrious Tipperary family, which has given sons and daughters to the Church, at a very early age she joined the Order of Mercy at their convent, Kinsale. For the last few years she had suffered greatly in health, and had handed over her staff of authority to younger and stronger hands. But to the last she has been a beloved Mother to her dear children, to whom her memory will be for ever green. On Tuesday, December 29, she died in the odor of sanctity, the members of her community being around her.

### A Generous Gift

The Right Rev. Dr. Fogarty, Bishop of Killaloe, has sent £50 to Nenagh Convent to provide food and clothing for the poor children attending the schools.

### TYRONE—Sad Death of a Priest

The Rev. Patrick Brennan was overtaken in the storm on the night of December 29, on his way from Dungannon to Cookstown, and by over exertion in cycling through the heavy fall of snow became exhausted and succumbed to the severe strain. The deceased's first mission was in the parish of Clonoe, Tyrone, where he spent nine years. He afterwards went to Cookstown, where he spent almost seven years in missionary duty. In both Clonoe and Cookstown the deceased endeared himself to all, his zeal and indefatigable energy in the cause of religion earning for him universal esteem and admiration. His death has caused profound grief and mourning in both parishes, where his memory will be revered for many years as a great and good priest and a kind and generous friend to the poor and lowly. Father Brennan was born in Haggardstown, Dundalk. He was nephew of Rev. P. McCartney, P.P., of Forkhill.

### GENERAL

#### Severe Weather

A very severe blizzard was experienced all over Ireland a few days after Christmas. Considerable damage was done, especially in the North of Ireland, where its full force was felt.

#### A National Convention

A National Convention was held in the Round Room of the Mansion House, Dublin, on Tuesday and Wednesday of last week. The Convention was of a very representative character. The following were among those entitled to attend according to a fixed scale of representation:— Prelates and clergy of all denominations, all members of the National Directory of the United Irish League, and delegates of the undermentioned bodies:—Each branch of the United Irish League in Ireland and Great Britain, the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Irish National Foresters, Land and Labor Association, each County Council, County Boroughs, and other towns, each Rural District Council, each Urban District Council, Trades and Labor Councils, etc. We were informed by cable last week that the National Directory of the United Irish League had re-elected Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., as president. The report declared that the activity of the branches was never more manifest or the tone and spirit more satisfactory. Owing to inquiries and representations made by the organisation 2000 tenants had been restored by Lord Londonderry at Belfast. The report also states—'The next general election will be one of the most critical since the Unionist party was formed, because the Liberals, if returned, will say that they have a mandate for Home Rule.' His Eminence Cardinal Moran cabled the Convention his heartiest congratulations to the Irish Party, whose past victories, he said, were a presage of future triumphs. 'Australia is united with you in wishing the Convention a complete success.' The message was received with cheers.

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