

a sincere desire to help the country rather than the studied friendship of Mr. Asquith, whose miserable interpretation of Irish spirit, as shown in the Council Bill, did not promise much for Ireland.

#### TIPPERARY—Thurles Cathedral

There have just been erected in the Thurles Cathedral two new altar rails enclosing the side altars, one of which has been presented by the Most Rev. Dr. Ryan, Archbishop of Philadelphia, a native of Thurles, and the other is in memory of the late Mr. James Quirke, of Thurles.

#### WEXFORD—Statistics of the County

The administrative county is divided into 10 baronies, and contains 144 parishes and 1600 townlands, having a population in 1901 of 104,104—males, 51,756; females, 52,348 (Catholics, 95,435; Episcopalians, 7859; Presbyterians, 271; Methodists, 342; others, 197), or 22,122 families, occupying 21,608 houses; also 1540 uninhabited. It is in Ferns diocese, with a small portion in that of Dublin. Towns having more than 500 inhabitants in 1901—Wexford, 11,168; New Ross, 5847; Enniscorthy, 5448. The county returns two members to Parliament; registered electors, 1902—North Division, 9953; South Division, 8715; with 14 polling places. The county comprises 576,757 acres, of which 192,149 acres are under crops.

#### A Local Industry

The Hon. James McGee, Clerk to the Privy Council at Ottawa, Canada, and brother to D'Arcy McGee, the poet and historian, who was assassinated in 1868, has sent one thousand dollars to the Mayor of Wexford to assist in establishing a bacon factory in his native town.

#### GENERAL

#### The Hibernian Society and the Irish Party

The trustees of the United Irish Parliamentary and National Fund have received a sum of £105 from the H.A.C.B. Society. The corresponding secretary of the Hibernian Society, writing from Adelaide under date March 31, says—'I am forwarding herewith draft for £105 (one hundred guineas), being a further instalment of the £1000 tribute promised by the Hibernians of Australia and New Zealand at the biennial meeting held in Adelaide, in 1905. This brings the total subscribed to date and sent your gallant Party, £705. You will understand that the visit of Messrs. Devlin and Donovan, M.P.'s, to our shores, in 1906, caused the Hibernians' tribute to be suspended in order that the success of their mission in a financial sense should be absolutely assured.'

#### Comparisons in Toleration

In the course of a speech at Bolton, England, on May 9 Mr. John Redmond gave some examples of how minorities are treated in different parts of Ireland. He said:—'I will take two samples, one from the Protestant part of Ireland in the North and the other from the South, which is overwhelmingly Catholic. I take four Protestant counties—Armagh, Antrim, Fermanagh, and Tyrone. They have a population of 537,479 souls. The Catholics number 40 per cent. of the whole, because you must remember, ladies and gentlemen, that there is no part of Ulster which is so overwhelmingly Protestant, as the South and the most of Ireland are overwhelmingly Catholic. As a matter of fact, take Ulster as a whole—the population is about equally divided between Protestants and Catholics, and, if you leave out Belfast, the rest of the province would show a majority of Catholics. I have taken four of what are called Protestant counties with a population of over half a million, of which 40 per cent. are Catholics. Of course, County Councils are entirely in the hands of the Protestant majority, and I find that amongst salaried appointments, large and small, in the hands of the elected Councils of these four Protestant counties, that although the Catholics are 40 per cent. of the population, they only hold 12 per cent. of the appointments. Let them turn to the other side of the picture. Here are four rebel counties of the South-west. They are four which would be called Papist counties, where the spirit of intolerance would oppress the small Protestant minority. Let us take Galway, Cork, Westmeath, and King's County. They have a population of 718,970, and of the huge population only 7 per cent. are Protestant. Yet I find that this 7 per cent. hold 23 per cent. of the salaried appointments. I might push this further. Let me take one Catholic county by itself. In County Cavan the Protestants are 20 per cent. of the whole population, but under the intolerant and tyrannical will of the Cavan County Council, elected by a majority of Catholics, 20 per cent. of the Protestants enjoy 47 per cent. of the salaried appointments.'

'Catholic Marriages.' The book of the hour. Single copies, 1s. posted; 12 copies and over, 8d each, purchaser to pay carriage. Apply Manager, 'Tablet,' Dunedin.

## People We Hear About

Mr. Thomas A. Edison has been presented with the Adelskiold gold medal for his inventions in connection with the phonograph and the incandescent light by the Royal Academy at Stockholm. The medal is conferred only once in ten years.

An American writer contends that President Taft is of Irish stock, the family name being Taffe. The Taffes originally settled in County Louth in 1171, the head of the family, Sir William Taffe, being made Baron Ballymote for his services during the wars with the O'Neills.

The Hon. A. Wilmot, K.S.G., M.L.C., of South Africa, who visited New Zealand a couple of years ago, has been the recipient of a handsome presentation from the clergy of the Eastern and Western Vicariates of Cape Colony. It takes the form of a life-size painting of Mr. Wilmot himself, which was executed by Mr. Marston, of Cape Town. The Bishop of Cape Town (Dr. Rooney) made the presentation.

Mr. James Patton, who recently cornered the wheat market in Chicago, is a native of Myroe, Limavady, County Derry, Ireland. He left Myroe when a young man and began life as a clerk in a small store in the town of Evanston, Ill. It was not long till he began to act as a commission agent for farm products. Some time after he joined his brother in business as stockbroker and founded the largest grain brokerage firm in the West. In 1902 Mr. Patton made a corner in oats and gained \$200,000; in 1903 he lost \$150,000; in January, 1908, he crossed swords with the firm of Armour, and lost \$1,000,000. Four months later he caught Armour in a corn corner and recovered \$2,000,000; in December, 1908, he started the recent wheat corner, and after four months of work he had succeeded in making many millions out of the corner. Mr. Patton is fifty-four years old.

In the *Westminster Gazette* of April 24, under the heading 'Men of the Moment,' there appears the following appreciation of the Irish leader:—'Mr. Redmond's success in the House of Commons may be taken as affording a test of those qualities which make for mastery in an independent Assembly. His oratorical power is one of the most cherished possessions of the House, and his persistence, courage, and energy in pursuit of a great ideal have long since given him that commanding position which belongs alone to men of character. No one doubts that if he had chosen any other career—that if, for instance, he had gone to the Bar—he would have been one of the leading advocates of his day. Had he entered politics as a member of either of the great parties he would have attained to a position of eminence on the front bench. He might well have hoped to be one day Prime Minister of this country. But as leader of the Irish Party he can hope for no emoluments or rewards beyond the gratitude of his country, and in politics gratitude is a varying quantity that may altogether disappear before the gusts of popular passion. The House, therefore, takes off its hat, so to speak, when it thinks of the leader of the Irish Party and his refusal to accept any of those rewards which other men tumble over one another to win. For an enduring name and fame as a British statesman were undoubtedly within Mr. Redmond's grasp had he taken to the high road of politics. His own road is, of course, the highest road of all for a patriotic Irishman, but it is a road that few men would care to tread who had any thought for their own repose or for the good things of the political world.'

The golden jubilee of the ordination to the priesthood of Rev. Louis A. Lambert, LL.D., rector of the Church of the Assumption, Scottsville, New York, editor-in-chief of the *New York Freeman's Journal*, was celebrated on April 29. In the evening congratulatory addresses were made by Judge John D. Lynn, of Rochester, and other prominent men, ecclesiastical and lay, who came from far and near to honor the famous author, polemic, and priest. A special train brought to Scottsville a contingent of G.A.R. veterans to take part in the jubilee exercises, Father Lambert himself being a veteran of the Civil War, having served as chaplain from 1861 to 1863 in an Illinois regiment with the rank of Captain. Dr. Lambert was seventy-four years of age on April 13, and is conceded to be one of the best theologians and editorial writers in the country.

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