

GINCKEL'S army—the Jacobites being eventually compelled to retreat to Athlone. The Rapparees were a prominent force in the neighborhood of Moate.

WEXFORD—The Bishop's Jubilee

On September 14, amidst tokens of universal rejoicing, the celebration took place of the silver episcopal jubilee of the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Ferns. Dr. James Browne was consecrated Bishop on September 14, 1884, in the Cathedral of Enniscorthy, in succession to the saintly Bishop Warren. During the intervening period he has endeared himself to all classes of the community by his uniform gentleness and wise administration. Bishop Browne's episcopate of twenty-five years has been marked by a deepening of spiritual life throughout the diocese of Ferns, and by a steady building up of the material fabric, an increase in the number of parishes and a remarkable growth in the matter of well-equipped churches, schools, halls, libraries, etc. The successful colleges of St. Peter's, Wexford, of St. Benedict's, Gorey, and of Our Lady of Good Counsel, New Ross, as also the Loretto Convent Schools at Wexford, Enniscorthy, and Gorey—all evidence his fatherly zeal for the educational needs of the day. In addition must be enumerated the works done by the Sisters of St. Louis at Ramsgrange, and the Faithful Companions at Newtownbarry, and the Agricultural and Technical Schools at Ramsgrange and Taggart, while the Christian Brothers have flourishing schools at Wexford, Enniscorthy, New Ross, and Gorey. The clergy manifested their devotion on the auspicious occasion by the money present for the purchase of a carriage and pair of horses. The laity made a presentation of close on £700, and the National teachers presented an illuminated address and a gold chalice. His Holiness Pope Pius X., through the Very Rev. Dean Kavanagh, conveyed a gracious message of paternal felicitation, and a most interesting episode was the reading of an address from his Lordship's episcopal class-fellows—his Grace the Archbishop of Tuam; the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, Bishop of Limerick; the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne; and the Most Rev. Dr. Hoare, Bishop of Ardagh. Among the messages of congratulation received by his Lordship was one from the priests of the diocese of Ferns—six in number—at present working in the dioceses of Auckland and Dunedin.

GENERAL

The New Land Bill

As was to be expected, the House of Lords in dealing with the new Irish Land Bill considered only the interests of the landlords, and therefore amended it in such a way that its scope has been greatly restricted. Lord Crewe, speaking in the House of Lords last week, declared that after the amendments introduced by the Lords the Bill was no longer a final solution of the Irish land question, as the Government had intended it to be. The safeguards introduced would cause the Irish to demand yet further amendments.

Irish Exports

The Irish export of butter—£4,036,023—to Great Britain last year was the second largest in quantity and value, the import from Denmark into the United Kingdom being first—£10,906,484—and that from Russia third—£3,401,637. Irish eggs were the second largest quantity—6,501,195 great hundreds, and the largest value, £2,729,147—imported into Great Britain, a larger quantity—7,061,519 great hundreds—coming from Russia into the United Kingdom, but the total value, £2,518,051, being lower than that of Irish eggs.

Hospice for Infirm Clergy

The hospice under the control of the Catholic Bishops of Ireland for the reception of infirm clergy was opened at Moyne Park, Ballyglunin, Ireland, on September 30. The institution will be in charge of the Fathers of the Order of St. Camillus de Lellis.

Land Commissioners' Work

The report of the Irish Land Commissioners for the year ended March 31 states that notices to fix fair rents disposed of during the year numbered 6628, whilst the total number of rents fixed for the first statutory term under the various Land Acts from 1881 to the present year was 373,276, the result being an average reduction of 20.7 per cent. over the entire country. The second term rents fixed for the same period numbered 135,404, the average reduction effected being 19.6 per cent. The total advances for purchases under the Wyndham Act amounted to £29,025,447.

The big boot sale at Messrs. Simon Bros., George street, Dunedin, commenced on Saturday, and will continue for two weeks, during which time most remarkable bargains will be offered....

Ridley's Teas are only obtainable at Messrs. Ridley and Co., Christchurch and Wellington. These teas are very popular, and the demand is increasing daily. The *Lyttelton Times* says:—The total amount of tea cleared in Christchurch during September amounted to 124,530lbs., Messrs. Ridley and Co.'s proportion being no less than 55,582lbs.

People We Hear About

Mark Twain, who will be seventy-four on November 30, has consented to pilot President Taft's boat down the Mississippi from St. Louis to New Orleans—about 1200 miles. This is the stretch of water on which the famous humorist used to ply with the old Paul Jones boat in his early days, and it was the leadsman's cry of 'Mark Twain,' in sounding a depth of two fathoms, that gave him his nom-de-plume.

On Monday last Constable Mulholland, of St. Clair, retired on superannuation from the Police Force on three months' leave of absence. It is six-and-forty years since Mr. Mulholland joined the Royal Irish Constabulary, in which body he served for a period of ten years. Coming out to New Zealand, he joined the police in Otago under the late Inspector Weldon, since when he has had charge in turn at Winton, Cromwell, and St. Clair.

A glance at the list of the Royal personages in the direct line of succession to the British Throne reveals some interesting facts. How many people know that there are only two adult males between the Emperor William and King Edward? The German Emperor stands twenty-fourth on the list, but most of those who come before him are women and children. Only two are men of full age—the King's only son, the Prince of Wales, and his only living brother, the Duke of Connaught.

To remain in the employment of an individual, a firm, or the Government for a period of thirty-four years, and during that time to perform one's duty—especially an onerous and responsible duty—faithfully and well, and to the satisfaction of all concerned, is a record of which any man might be proud. This is the record of Mr. William Ames, one of the best known and most popular drivers on the Dunedin-Oamaru section of the Government Railways, who retired on superannuation the other day. Mr. Ames joined the Railway Department on June 7, 1875, and after having been stationed at Dunedin, Lawrence, and Balclutha he was transferred to Palmerston in 1889.

Whatever may be thought of Mr. Bernard Shaw as a writer of risky plays which the British Censor will not license, there can be no doubt that he scored a point in his letter to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. Lord Aberdeen expressed his fears that Mr. Shaw's latest play, if produced in Dublin, might offend the religious susceptibilities of the Irish people. To this the playwright replied: 'I can assure the Lord Lieutenant that there is nothing in the passages objected to by the English Censor that might not have been written by the Catholic Archbishop of Dublin, and that, in point of consideration for the religious beliefs of the Irish people, the play compares very favorably indeed with the Coronation Oath.' Lord Aberdeen must have enjoyed the quip.

The Miners' Federation of New Zealand cannot be classed among those who are ready to forget favors. Owing to amendments to the Compensation for Accidents Act during the session of 1908 the miners were placed at a serious disadvantage, and there was every prospect of a serious industrial disturbance. Mr. P. J. O'Regan, solicitor, Wellington, was on the West Coast at the time for his Christmas holidays. He found himself in the midst of the trouble, and during his fortnight's stay on the Coast, notwithstanding that he was not then the Federation's attorney, worked day and night along with the officers of the Federation at Reefton to have the matter righted. Mr. O'Regan did this because he had the interests of labor at heart, and he saw the injustice which was being done the miners. At a meeting of delegates of the Federation in Wellington last week Mr. O'Regan was entertained by them, and presented with a gold watch and with a bracelet and a watch attached for Mrs. O'Regan, in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the miners on the occasion referred to.

My mind,' says Sir Thomas Lipton, in the *Strand Magazine*, 'goes back nearly half a century to one day in autumn, when I stood, a very small boy, on my way to school, before the window of a Glasgow shop. Child as I was, I realised already many of the difficulties of life. I knew that my parents were poor, and I loved them dearly. I hated to be a burden to them. So, as I stood before that shop window, my mind was quickly made up. A legend had attracted my attention—the familiar "Boy wanted." I went in. I interviewed the proprietor, and was engaged on the spot as errand-boy at the munificent wage of half-a-crown a week. I flew home with the good news, but could not understand why my mother did not share my joy. It saddened her to think of my starting in business at so tender an age. She would like to have had me spared the stress of life a little longer, but my enthusiasm and confidence in myself soon calmed her fears. "I will succeed," I told her laughingly, "and by and bye, mother, you shall have your carriage and pair." She shook her head and cried at my childish exuberance, never thinking that her little Tom's boast could ever possibly come true.'