

Irish News.

CLARE.—Death of the Pastor of Killaloe.—To the deep sorrow of every section in the community, the Very Rev. Dr. Broganahau, P.P., V.G., Killaloe, passed away on Saturday, August 11. The very reverend gentleman had not been well for some time, but the end was entirely unexpected.

CORK.—Death of a Youghal Priest in America.—Keen sorrow was felt in Youghal at the death of one its best and most gifted sons, the Rev. John C. Ahern, who passed away at Minneapolis in the prime of his life. Father Ahern came of a well-known family, which had given its best members to the sacred ministry for the advancement of God's cause.

DERRY.—Initiation into an Orange Lodge.—A strange story was told by James Warke, farm-hand, at the Linnavady Sessions, relating to the rites by which it was sought to initiate him into an Orange Lodge. He was stripped, his hands and legs were tied, a cloth was placed over his eyes, he was stung with nettles, and the back of his hands was burned with hot tongs. Warke did not bargain for this, and the magistrates were certainly acting very leniently in fining the three zealous Orangemen in sums altogether amounting to 10 guineas.

DONEGAL.—Drowning of a Student.—A gloom was cast over the village of Rathmullen, which is situated on the shores of Lough Swilly, when the news spread that a Maynooth College student had lost his life at a place called the Kinnegur whilst bathing. His name was Charles Farren. He was a native of Buncrana, aged about 21 years, and four years a student in the college mentioned. On holidays he and some clerical friends went on an excursion, and during the afternoon, while bathing, he got caught in a strong current, and although an expert swimmer was unable to extricate himself. Three companions made a gallant attempt at rescue.

DOWN.—Proposed Memorial to Lord Russell.—The suggestion made to the members of the Newry Urban Council by Mr. Carvell, M.P. for the borough, regarding the erection of a memorial to the late Lord Russell (says the *Ulster Examiner*) is one which is certain to meet with general approval in the frontier town. Newry claims the honor of being his native place, and if some suitable form of commemoration would be decided upon the project would be generously supported. Some tribute to the memory of the gifted Irishman from the inhabitants of Newry would be most appropriate. At the last meeting of the Council the subject was brought under notice by the chairman, Dr. McCartan, who recommended that no time should be lost in setting about the preliminary work. The members of the Board appeared to be in thorough accord with the suggestion, which, if it be given definite shape, is certain to secure the support of the inhabitants, without distinction of political or religious views.

DUBLIN.—St. Mary's University.—The beautiful and spacious property known as Muckross Park, Donnybrook, with its fine residence, has just been purchased for the purposes of a permanent home for St. Mary's University, Dublin. It is now just six years since the College was established at Merrion square under the patronage and wise inspiration of his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin. Within the brief period of its existence it has won for itself the foremost place among the Colleges for the higher education of Irish women.

GALWAY.—Death of a Business Man.—On Friday evening, August 10, the death of Mr. William O'Sullivan occurred at his residence, Merchants' Quay, Galway, and his funeral took place at Forthill Cemetery, after a *Requiem* Mass at the Pro-Cathedral. The deceased was a very popular and energetic Nationalist.

KING'S COUNTY.—A Moving Bog.—The phenomenon of a moving bog is the object of much curiosity and considerable danger to the inhabitants of Woodfield, near Clara, King's County. For some time the bog has been observed to be in a somewhat unsettled condition (says the *Belfast Weekly*), but the heavy rains of the early part of August, aided by the overflowing of the Brosna River, caused a vast area of the main bog to become detached, and it is now floating in the midst of a great lagoon. A family named Lloyd, who resided in the neighborhood, had a narrow escape. Their house, being situate on the moving bog, was shattered by the convulsions. Several acres of the low lying and reclaimed portions of the bog have in some places been raised to the extent of several feet, while in other parts it has been completely overrun by many feet of the soft, peaty compounds; and, consequently, large areas of newly cut turf and crops thereon have been entirely destroyed. The bog forms a detached portion of the great Bog of Allen.

LIMERICK.—Demonstration at Curraghchase.—On Thursday, July 26, the usual annual demonstrations commemorating the birthday of the very popular Sir Stephen E. de Vere, Bart., brother of the poet, Aubrey de Vere, Curraghchase, who is past 85 years, were celebrated at Foynes, when everything connected with the happy proceedings went to show that with the increase of his years increased also the devotion and friendship of the people for him. One detracting element alone (remarks the *Wexford People*, August 4) was conspicuous—the absence of the band, occasioned by the recent trouble of Lord Montague, Sir Stephen's near relative, and which caused the birthday receptions to assume a somewhat subdued and quiet tone. At 8 o'clock p.m., all the available boats being secured, a flotilla of them, capable of conveying about one-fifth of those present, proceeded to the island, which was already ablaze, tar-barrels having been previously taken in and lighted at the appointed time; tar-barrels also lighted the pier and extension, and along the harbor to the base of Monument Hill, forming a

splendid semi-circular ruffance, the reflection of which from the water produced a most splendid effect. Shortly after landing the good old baronet presented himself, when vociferous cheering rent the air, and was repeated along the coast side the hilly wooded hills. The years appeared to be producing their slow but steady effects on his physique—the assembly dreaded fidgeting him, and after some cheering retired. He appeared peculiarly touched and unusually moved on this occasion, and it was not until the crowd had reached the shore on the mainland side that he left the lawn.

LOUTH.—Visit of an American Prelate.—The Right Rev. Dr. Brady, Bishop of South Boston U.S.A. who was recently on tour in Ireland, paid a visit to Drogheda, where he was the guest of his brother, Mr. Thomas Brady.

SLIGO.—Agricultural and Technical Training.—The Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Ephin, delivered an excellent address on agricultural and technical training on Saturday, August 11, before the County Council of Sligo. His Lordship strongly recommended the people to take advantage of the Agricultural and Technical Instruction Act. No right-minded person can deny that, pending the winning of self-government, the Irish people should take advantage of everything likely to assist in developing industry and thus help in keeping the people at home. The new department, Dr. Clancy said, will aim at the industrial regeneration of Ireland as a whole, and it would be reprehensible in the last degree to narrow its efficiency by local or sectional prejudices.

WEXFORD.—Death of the Pastor of Ferns.—Very general regret was felt in Wexford on the death of the Very Rev. Canon Parker, part-h priest of Ferns. The sad event took place on August 8, at the Parochial House, Ferns, where, after a long and patiently-borne illness, fortified by the Sacraments and all the consolations of religion, he passed away. Canon Parker was a widely respected priest, large-hearted and generous, a patriotic upholder of his country's cause, and a gifted advocate of everything that had for its object the bettering of his fellow-man. By his death many have lost a friend indeed. He is particularly regretted by the poor, to whom he was always kind and charitable.

GENERAL.

The Tourist Traffic.—As might be anticipated (says a Dublin newspaper of August 5), the example of her Majesty the Queen in visiting Ireland is being followed by thousands of holiday-makers. In fact at the present moment there is a regular invasion of Ireland on the part of English tourists. Killybegs and Connemara are said to be almost full, whilst other less famous resorts are well patronised. This is just as it should be. It is gratifying in this connection to note that the different railway companies are doing all they can to facilitate the tourist traffic. This is especially true of the London and North-Western and the Great Western Railway Companies, which are affording the most ample facilities for English visitors to Ireland, and at considerably reduced rates.

Bad outlook for the Country.—A serious crisis threatens the prospects of the Irish agriculturist, or in other words Ireland, for agriculture is, of course, the staple industry of the country. The fearful weather of the last week or so (says a Dublin paper, August 11) has wrought ruin in the crops. Never were the prospects of the farmer brighter than a fortnight ago. The fields were rich with golden corn and luxuriant fields of potatoes. To-day all that is completely changed. The ripening corn has been 'lodged,' the hay is rotting, and the disastrous blight is playing havoc with the potatoes. In the valley of the Shannon especially the damage has been enormous. In the neighbourhood of Banagher, Portlinton, and Portumna, what but a short time ago promised a magnificent yield is now merely a scene of desolation. Fields of corn are under water or lying soaked beyond redemption. Unless a speedy change in the weather takes place the fate of the Irish farmer is dark in the extreme. Even under the most favorable auspices he can only hope for a very meagre return for his labor and expenditure.

Taking Coals to Newcastle.—There are three pages in the first number of the *Journal of the Agricultural and Industries Department* which (remarks the *Cork Herald*, August 11) do not deserve to be circulated broadcast. By the way the journal should be described by the Government as a Grey-Book, and not a Blue-Book, but the color of the cover does not affect the remarks we have made. The pages we refer to are 177, 178, and 179, and they conclude the first issue. They certainly contain what may well be described as startling statistics. For example, during the four weeks ending the 11th July last there were imported into Ireland 'direct from foreign countries, as much as 2494 cwt. of pork, in addition to 381 cwt. of bacon. These imports do not include any of the re-shipments from England, which must be considerable, and which the Department hope to be in a position to publish later on. This remark applies to the succeeding figures as well. Fancy introducing into Ireland, the home of the porker, a total of nearly 3000 cwt. of pork and bacon in the space of four short weeks! We wonder how much of the pork imported from foreign countries into Ireland during these few weeks was meant for the use of the navy, supplied at Irish victualling stations? The Admiralty has been a bad offender in this respect, and, doubtless, it is now no better than it has been. But the large importations of pork, direct from foreign countries, do not stand alone as a startling feature of the statistics before us. Take the item of margarine, for instance. The direct importations from foreign countries of this rubbish for the four weeks ended the 11th July amounted to 351 cwt. This is a very large amount when we take into consideration the facts that margarine is made extensively not only in England, but in Ireland itself. If the Agricultural Organisation Society devoted a tithe of the attention to the suppression of the illegal trade in margarine in Ireland that it does to the stupid crusade against the hand-made butter industry it would be possible to entertain some sympathy for its methods. But we are not aware that margarine finds a particularly prominent place on its 'black-books.'