

the country. He could not bring his mind to support the reduction of the Irish members unless it were done as a whole measure from one end of the United Kingdom to the other. Undoubtedly there was over-representation in England; at Hereford and Rochester, for instance, among other towns in England, and therefore if they had such a measure they must have justice behind it.

The land question.

The 'Birmingham Daily Post,' the Liberal Unionist organ of the landlords, and usually designated as Mr. Chamberlain's paper, has in a late issue a most discriminating review of Mr. Russell's book, 'Ireland and the Empire.' The land question is treated thus:—'The chapter that deserves, and will doubtless receive, most attention is that in which he advocates those views upon the Irish land question, for the sake of which he sacrificed his position in the Unionist Government. "Compulsory sale of the landlord's interest in the land is," he says, "the only way out." Without attempting any discussion of Mr. Russell's project, we may say that, sooner or later, it will be forced on the attention of all politicians, and that the case in its favor could not be more effectively and eloquently stated than in the book before us.'

Irish Industries.

An Irish Industries exhibition was opened in Manchester about the middle of December. These exhibitions are really sales of work, and are conducted purely on business lines. They show that agriculture is not the only industry practised in Ireland. Some beautiful goods were shown, all the work of poor people who live in the country districts of Ireland. Since this association was first started by Lady Aberdeen, some 24 exhibitions and sales have been organised in London and elsewhere, and the net total of the sales is £63,161. The money has mostly gone to the poor people in Ireland, but Irish ladies of reduced circumstances have also benefited by the operations of the association. At the Exhibition in Manchester there were many stalls presided over by Irish ladies. The Carraghmore Knitting Industry stall was presided over by the Marchioness of Waterford, and she was assisted by Lady Susan Beresford, Lady Aileen Roberts, Mrs. Vaudrey, and Miss Edith Miller. The Ulster Ladies' Work Society stall had for its president the Marchioness of Dufferin and Ava, and amongst those assisting was the Countess of Annesley. The County of Meath stall was attended by the Countess of Fingall. Other stalls were the Castlebar stall (Countess of Lucan's), Garry Hill Cottage Industry, the Killarney Furniture and Castlerosse School of Industry stall, Irish Distressed Ladies, Gentlewomen's Guild of Handicraft, Quinnton and Strangford Cottage Industry, Cushendall, Glens of Antrim Toy Industry, Turbotson Cottage Industry, Dunleckneg, Marheld, and Borris, County Carlow Industries, etc. The opening ceremony on Thursday was performed by the Countess of Cadogan, and it was graced by the presence of many influential notabilities. On Friday the Countess of Aberdeen opened the exhibition, when there was again a great gathering. To enumerate the different articles on each stall, and to attempt a mere criticism would require space that we could not possibly give, and even then it would be but a feeble effort. The work offered for sale was varied, embracing lace, in galore, antique embroideries, dress and furnishings, crochet, sprigged muslin, tatted work, weaving and tweeds, etc. Some of the work done in convent schools came in for great praise, which was richly deserved. On the whole the exhibition was considered a great success, and the takings amounted to over £4000.

People

The German Emperor celebrated his 43rd birthday on January 27.

Don Perosi is engaged on a cantata in honor of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady. It will be executed in Rome on December 8, 1903.

Mrs. William O'Brien has sent a cheque of £25 to the Very Rev. Canon O'Neill, P.P., Kiltanerin, for distribution amongst the Coolgreany evicted tenants.

Mr. Kruger, on the Saturday before Christmas, received 10,000 marks subscribed by the children of the Rhine Provinces of Prussia and Westphalia as a present for the Boer children.

Mr. R. H. Manners, late of Brasenose College, Oxford, and formerly of Stonyhurst College, headed the list of university candidates at the recent army examinations. He has been gazetted to the Royal Scots regiment.

Mayor Keiley, of Brooklyn, U.S.A., whose death was announced in a recent issue of this paper, was father-in-law of Mr. A. M. Sullivan, B.L., a rising young member of the Irish Bar and a son of the distinguished Irishman whose name he bears.

His Holiness Pope Leo XIII. has conferred the title of Chevalier of the Order of St. Sylvester and Knight of the Golden Spur on Mr. Joseph Higgins Sheeran, of Charleville terrace, Dublin, son of the late Mr. James Sheeran, of Fisherstown, County Longford.

A marriage which is awakening interest among Catholics in England is that between Miss Clare Vaughan, elder daughter of Colonel Vaughan, of Courtfield, Ross, and Mr. Leonard Lindsay, secretary to the Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal. The ceremony will take place at Courtfield, and Cardinal Vaughan will officiate.

Capital punishment does not now exist in Belgium, and consequently the king has commanded the retirement on a pension of £100 per annum of the executioner, whose title was 'the executor of public works.' The guillotine has gone, but the scaffold remains, as the judges continue to pass the death sentence, and a copy of this is posted on the scaffold. Imprisonment for life is the doom of murderers.

Mr. C. V. O'Connor, C.E., the engineer-in-chief of Western Australia, received his early professional training in Ireland, but at the age of 27 he came to New Zealand, where he was, among other things, Consulting Engineer to the Hokitika Harbor Board and Marine Engineer to the Government. He transferred his services to Western Australia in 1891, and controlled the construction of the extensive harbor works at Fremantle.

Mr. Justice Walton was present at the Christmas Academy of St. Ignatius' College, Stamford Hill, England. Being introduced by Father Donnelly, S.J., the principal, who stated that he had given two sons to the Church and that another son of his had lost his life while serving in the army in South Africa, the judge addressed the students on success in life. There was not one of them, he said, who should not do well if he were intelligent and industrious. Mr. Justice Walton said he always looked back with pleasure to the days at St. Francis Xavier's, Liverpool, and Stonyhurst.

The centenary reminiscences of Sir John Parnell remind the 'Catholic Herald' that many of Ireland's greatest statesmen are not buried in Irish soil. Sir John Parnell is buried in St. George's, Hanover square, London. Burke is in the parish of Beaconsfield; and Grattan in

Westminster Abbey. Grattan, indeed, when dying in London, expressed the strongest wish that his body might repose in the graveyard of Moyanna, in the Queen's County, and it was not until the very day of his death that, when reduced to the last stage of physical prostration, he gave his assent to the importunate request of the Duke of Sussex and some other English friends that Westminster Abbey should be his place of sepulture. The greatest of Irishmen, O'Connell, died abroad, and his heart is buried in Rome.

December 12 was the anniversary of the birth of Gerald Griffin, one of the best and most deservedly popular Irish writers. He was born in Limerick on December 12th, 1803, and being bent on a literary career, went to London at an early age, when, after much struggling he gained the ear of the public. In the first flush of the long-coveted success, however, the talented young Irishman renounced the world altogether, and entered the Order of the Christian Brothers, dying in a few years at the early age of 36. His works are too well known to need enumeration, and 'The Collegians' bids fair to hold a prominent place in Irish fiction. Griffin died in Cork on June 12th, 1840.

The Most Rev. Dr. Bagshawe, who retired some time ago from the See of Nottingham and has been succeeded by the Right Rev. Dr. Brindle, Bishop-Auxiliary of Westminster, was consecrated so far back as 1874. Born in 1829 in London, he was educated at Oscott and remained there for 10 years. After having taken his degree of B.A. at the London University, he entered the Congregation of the Oratory and became professor of Christian doctrine at Hammersmith. He was appointed assistant-Bishop to Dr. Roskell, of Nottingham, and that prelate having resigned before the brief of appointment was issued, owing to the failure of his eyesight, Dr. Bagshawe was at once nominated to the See. He was then in his 44th year, and from that time till his resignation some months ago he has ruled over the diocese. The Catholic population has increased from 21,500 to 32,000, and there has been a corresponding increase in clergy, churches, and schools. The Bishop celebrated his Episcopal jubilee in May, 1899, when a presentation was made to him on behalf of the clergy.

Sir Bryan O'Loughlen, Bart., of Melbourne, is a graduate of Trinity College, Dublin, and he took the Home Rule side in politics in County Clare so long ago as 1847. He studied first as an engineer; then he farmed the family acres, and subsequently he entered mercantile pursuits, but finally studied for the law, and was admitted to the Irish Bar 46 years ago. His father was the first Catholic raised to the judicial office after the revolution of 1688, and his brother (also Sir Michael) was likewise a distinguished lawyer. Shortly after he succeeded to the baronetcy, in 1877, he was selected to the Commons for Clare, but did not return to Ireland to take his seat. Sir Bryan has been a prominent personage in Victoria for 40 years. He is now in his 74th year.

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