

Aroon, beloved by his clerical brethren, and deservedly popular among his parishioners.

Compulsory Education

At a recent meeting of the Limerick County Council it was decided to formulate a scheme, and that the secretary take the necessary proceedings to have the Compulsory Clauses of the Education Act administered in the county, with all necessary expedition. A deputation from the county teachers attended with reference to the subject.

ROSCOMMON.—Sale of Holdings.

I am in a position (writes a Castlereagh correspondent) to confirm the rumor that the Sandford estate is about to be sold to the tenants. I am reliably informed that communications have been opened with the Congested Districts Board, and that negotiations for the purchase are well under way. The estate, comprising the town of Castlereagh, consists of about a thousand tenants, the majority of whom live on holdings that are at most but of mediocre quality.

TIPPERARY.—Improved Methods.

Steam-rolling is rapidly superseding the old contract system for making roads in Tipperary County. Clonmel Corporation opened the ball, so to speak, by introducing the steam-roller, in re-making the seventeen miles of streets and roads which are now in line order. The County Council then purchased a 15-ton roller, and most of the village streets were rolled. Clonmel Rural Council were one of the first to go in for steam-rolling, and several of the more important roads were rolled. At a recent meeting the Council agreed to steam-roll three more roads, and the County Surveyor announced that his estimate for the roads on the district for the coming year was £700 less than the average of the Grand Jury, owing to the steam-rolling. Clagheen Council, which objected to steam-rolling for the first five years, agreed recently to adopt it, and all the other rural districts, seeing the saving in expenditure and the improvement in the roads, have adopted the new system also. The County Council have advertised for a second 15-ton roller, and it is said half a dozen will soon be necessary to meet the requirements of the county. The North Riding County Council have also adopted a direct labor scheme for the roads, which includes the introduction of machinery. One of the results of the improvement in our roads is the growing popularity of the district for motorists. Most of the main roads leading to Clonmel are steam-rolled, and by next year a fine stretch of road, from Kilsheelan, through Clonmel, to Cahir, should be finished. Everyone speaks highly of the new roads.

WATERFORD.—Making a 'Corner.'

This is the day of 'corners' and 'trusts,' so it is not surprising to hear that an Anglo-Jewish dealer has been attempting to make a quiet corner in Waterford glass, which is becoming more sought after year by year. He has bought up the stock of more than one country town dealer and commenced operations in Belfast—with the plan it is inferred, of sending up prices as soon as a large enough stock has been accumulated. In spite of the good prices it brings, there is quite an astonishing amount of Waterford glass about the country here and there, hardly any old family mansion is without it, and every antiquity shop owns a good store.

GENERAL.

Just So.

In the course of a scathing criticism of Mr. McCarthy's book, which was dealt with a few weeks ago in our columns, the London 'Saturday Review' says, 'We doubt whether the Irishman drinks more than the Scot or the Englishman and he is certainly far more gentlemanly in his cups. And if we set drink on one side, the moral force of the Irish priesthood can hardly be over-estimated. They who know rural life in the two islands will appreciate the power which has made and keeps the Irish peasantry the best in Europe in the matter of sexual morality.'

The Inevitable Result.

The 'Daily News' the chief organ of the Liberal opposition to the Education Bill does not blame Mr. Redmond for the announcement of his intention to recall the Irish Party to support the Education Bill. On the contrary the organ of the Nonconformists accepts the situation with placid equanimity though it does not rebuke the prospect of the Irish vote helping to pass the Bill. As long as Irishmen have seats in the Parliament which controls the affairs of England and Wales they must be expected to act up to their religious convictions. The Irish will return, and the English Conservatives will use their despised votes for forcing the Education Bill on the unwilling English people. It is the inevitable result of England's own refusal to let the Irish go. In 1896 the Irish members were pettishly willing to leave the Imperial Parliament for ever. They were not allowed to go, and so now, as we persist in misgoverning them they will return to help misgovern us. Each part of the United Kingdom is given an absolute freedom to check the development of the other parts as much as it likes.

Morrow, Bassett and Co. have been appointed sole agents in New Zealand for the Cochshutt Plough Company's famous 'Excelsior' arm implements. Champions all over the globe. Send for catalogue.—***

People We Hear About

President Roosevelt, who was born in New York in 1858, celebrated the 44th anniversary of his birth in Washington, D.C., on October 27th.

A statue of Christopher Columbus 30ft. high has been presented to the city of Peoria, Ill., and was dedicated in the presence of 30,000 people. Bishop Spalding presided.

Sir F. C. Burnand, the Catholic editor of 'Punch,' has just celebrated his 65th birthday. He has been on the staff of the great comic weekly for 26 years.

Mr. W. Bourke Cockran has presented the Christian Brothers of Chicago with 10,000dols. to help along the cause of Catholic education. Sir Thomas Lipton, of Shamrock fame, will contribute 1000dols. toward the erection of an Irish building at the St. Louis fair.

After passing the century mark Mary Meany died recently at the home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor at Brooklyn. Ten minutes before her death the old lady threaded a needle without the aid of spectacles. She was born in County Clare, Ireland, in 1802.

Lord Acton's successor in the Chair of Modern History at Cambridge, Professor John Bagnall Bury, of Trinity College, Dublin, is 41 years of age, and the son of an Irish Protestant clergyman, the Rev. Canon Bury, of Monaghan.

The Holy Father has nominated the Hon. Alexander Wilmot, member of the Legislative Council of Cape Colony, as one of his private chamberlains. Mr. Wilmot, who has taken every opportunity of serving the cause of religion, well deserves the honor.

Mr. Richard Stocton Emmet, a leading lawyer of New York whose sudden death is reported at the age of 82, was a grand-nephew of Robert Emmet, the Irish rebel leader who was executed in Dublin in 1803, and a kinsman of the wife of General Louis Botha, whose maiden name was Emmet, and who is a descendant of the brother and fellow-rebel of Robert Emmet.

It is stated that a Dominican nun, Sister Thomasina Ruize, a native of Moravia, and one of the 14 children of a poor shopkeeper, is the most distinguished student now attending the University of Prague. The professors say she is the most gifted woman they have ever met. The more abstruse forms of higher mathematics and physics are familiar to her, and she is now distancing all her rivals in mental philosophy.

In the little country churchyard of Frosses, Donegal, where rests the bones of Ethna Carbery, a beautifully-sculptured Celtic cross has just been erected to her memory by her father, Mr. Robert Johnston, of Belfast, with an inscription in the language for the revival of which she strove so worthily. The Irish wording is the work of a friend and fellow-laborer whom she valued dearly, the well-known Conan Maol.

Of his recent visit to the Empress Eugenie at Farnborough General Corbin said: 'She is now a woman 76 years old, but remarkably well preserved, and she knows more about the United States than any man I met on the other side, except Prince Henry. She lives in a beautiful villa in that quiet suburb about 50 miles from London, and maintains an extensive establishment. The Empress herself showed us the little chapel where the bodies of her husband and her son are lying, and how the trees had been cut away so as to afford a view of the chapel from the house. "That is the destination for which I am bound," she said, sadly pointing to the chapel. "They are both asleep there, and very soon I shall join them."'

A writer in the London 'Times' says:—'Attention has been called more than once to the fact that the late Lord Acton was thrice refused admission at Cambridge. It is a natural inference that Roman Catholics were, as a class, debarred from Cambridge education. This inference would not be just to the University. Roman Catholics, it is quite true, could not proceed to degrees. But at some colleges they could be admitted and could read for the Tripos examinations. I can recall at least one—I think there were others—at this college, the well-known botanist, John Ball, F.R.S., first president of the Alpine Club who was admitted here in 1835, and was the last of the Wranglers in 1839. In 1888 his college had the pleasure of electing him to an honorary Fellowship.'

The engagement of Mr. Peter Finlay Dunne, the renowned exploiter of the wit and wisdom of 'Mr. Dooley,' to Miss Margaret Abbot, daughter of Mrs. C. P. Abbott, of Chicago, is an event of very universal interest in the world of letters. The Abbott family are well known in literary circles in New York, where they are now resident, and Miss Abbot is described as very handsome and a typical American girl. Mr. Dunne is too much of a philosopher to have made anything like the full market value of his rare and attractive works, but, nevertheless, he is now on the road to fortune. His first collected series of conversations between Dooley and Hinnissey sold we don't know how many hundred thousand copies in England, but he got nothing out of the edition. Like most other humorists, Mr. Dunne is extremely quiet, not to say shy, in society, but he is as much liked and esteemed for his personal character as for his unique gift of humor and really searching wisdom.