

his nature. After nearly 20 years' occupation of the See of Longford, Dr. Woodlock resigned. He had never completely recovered from the effects of a fall which he met with while returning from his last visit to Rome. In 1895 he resigned the Bishopric, and returned to All Hallows, where he had since constantly resided.

LIMERICK.—Rel'cs.

Some relics of the Siege of Limerick, when General Sarsfield held the city for James II and King William invested it from the heights above Pennywell, have just been brought to light by Corporation employees. They were employed making excavations outside the old city walls close to where the Royalists attempted to storm the breach, when they dug up a 24 pound cannon ball, and also a quantity of bones. The workmen discovered the antlers of an old Irish deer, but the remains proved too brittle for preservation.

Supporting Local Industry.

At a recent meeting of the Croom Board of Guardians unanimously adopted the resolution passed some time ago by the Limerick County Council in favor of supporting Irish manufacture when contracts were under consideration.

LOUTH.—A Splendid Meeting.

A splendid meeting, called by the United Irish League, was held in Dundalk on December 11. The gathering which was addressed by Mr. John Redmond, M.P., and the Lord Mayor of Dublin, was representative of the Counties Louth and Armagh.

MAYO.—A New History.

Students in Irish history will be interested in the announcement that the Rev. E. A. D'Alton, C.C., Belcarra, Castlebar, is about to issue the first volume of a comprehensive history of Ireland. The author, whose qualifications for the task, are of a high order, aims at producing a work which shall be accurate, readable, and impartial—a combination of characteristics which are not often to be found in books claiming to tell the history of the Irish race.

GENERAL.

Aid from America.

The letter from the treasurer of the United Irish League of America to the chairman of the Irish Party (says a Dublin exchange) is full of encouragement to the Nationalists of Ireland. The letter encloses a cheque for £2000 as the first instalment of the 100,000dols. guaranteed by the Convention to be raised and forwarded within six months and there is confident anticipation that the pledge will be redeemed. The sources of the supply have scarcely been touched at all in this first instalment. The League, he reports, is still rapidly growing in the States. The magnificent spirit displayed by the Irish people at home and their worthy representatives in the face of Coercion and tyranny has made a profound impression on this side of the Atlantic, and has aroused a spirit amongst the friends of Ireland here which has never been equalled since the palmiest days of the Land League. The trial and imprisonment of political opponents of the Government, the open and shameless packing of juries, the frantic attempt to suppress public opinion on the platform and in the Press, the cramming of the gaols with the representatives of the people—we can well realise how utterly base and vile this procedure must appear to the freedom-loving people of America.

The Irish Party and the Education Bill.

The 'Daily News' Parliamentary correspondent says: It is absolutely clear that the Lords' amendment was carried purely by Irish votes. A Liberal member counted 56 Tories in the 'No' lobby. On the other side there were 57 returned Irishmen—Mr. Redmond's following—plus the nine Irish votes which may more or less be reckoned to Mr. Healy's account. Mr. Redmond's tactics have certainly answered magnificently as a demonstration of the power of organised Irish democracy. That power, unfortunately, does not move on the same lines as the English people. But its crucial influence on our politics was never more powerfully illustrated.

A Romantic Story.

From the Springfield 'Republican,' a United States paper, we learn that Mr. Michael Davitt has announced his intention to visit the Irish colony in the Argentine Republic. Now that fact that there was such a colony in that country was not known to one person in a thousand, probably. They say it is very thriving—of course, for the Irish thrive everywhere except at home. In Buenos Ayres there is one of the most flourishing bodies of the Gaelic League in existence. The first Irish settlement in Argentina was romantic to an usual degree, and the story ought to be utilised some time by that future novelist who shall write a great prose epic of the oppression and final dispersion of the Irish race over the earth. In the early part of the last century a crew of Algerian pirates, off the coast of Cork, kidnapped two young Irish fishermen. The captives were treated well and remained some time with the freebooters. Finally they escaped at Buenos Ayres and disappeared into the interior, where they took up sheep farming, and prospered. When, some years later, their relatives in Ireland learned of the location of the two men, quite a number of Irish people went out to join them as settlers.

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People We Hear About

Mme. Sarah Bernhardt celebrated her 61st birthday recently at Christiana (Norway).

The estate of the late Right Rev. William Vaughan, uncle of Cardinal Vaughan and Catholic Bishop of the diocese of Plymouth from 1855 to 1902, has been declared at £154.

The 'Semaine Religieuse,' of Autun, announces that in response to its appeal for Cardinal Perraud, whose stipend was suppressed by M. Combes, a sum sufficient to cover a loss of salary for the next three years was at once subscribed.

Amongst the recipients of the silver medals of the Royal Society of Arts, presented at the opening meeting of the 1902-3 session by the president (Sir William Preece), was the name of Father Thurston, S.J. The medal was conferred for a paper read before the Society on 'The History of the Rosary in all Countries.'

Porfirio Diaz, who has been President of Mexico since 1877, will be succeeded this year by Jose Yves Limantour, the present Financial Minister. The latter is a gentleman of culture and wealth, to which he has largely added by skilful business management. He has no taste for political life, and when the call came to him to accept the post of Secretary of Finance he was reluctant to do so, and only yielded from a high sense of patriotic duty.

During the recent coal strike Mark Twain (says the 'Morning Post') sent the following letter to the Treasury at Washington:—'Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, Washington. Sir,—Prices for the customary kinds of winter fuel having reached an altitude which puts them out of the reach of literary persons in straitened circumstances, I desire to place with you the following order: Forty-five tons best old dry Government bonds suitable for furnace, gold 7 per cent. 1864 preferred; twelve tons early greenbacks, range size, suitable for cooking; eight barrels seasoned 25 and 50 per cent. postal currency, vintage of 1866, eligible for kindlings. Please deliver with all convenient despatch at my house in Riverdale at lowest rates for spot cash, and send bill to your obliged servant, Mark Twain, who will be very grateful and will vote right.'

The New South Wales Minister of Works is entirely a self-made man. Mr. O'Sullivan is a native of Bathurst, where his father was a bootmaker in a small way. At an early age he was apprenticed to the printing trade, and he worked at the case in Tasmania, Victoria, and Sydney. He was first overseer of the Sydney 'Daily Telegraph.' He took an active part in labor movements. He contested his first election at Sydney, and was so poor at the time that he had to do his own bill-sticking, and he conducted his meetings without the aid of a chairman. He was defeated, but soon afterwards he discovered a country constituency—Queanbeyan—which he has represented ever since. He is one of the best-read men in Australia.

On Saturday, November 22, Mr. Justin McCarthy celebrated his 72nd birthday. He was a member of the Young Ireland Party when he started his newspaper career in Cork in 1848. Of that brilliant band of Young Irishmen only two of the more prominent survive. Its founder, Sir Gavan Duffy, is still comparatively hale and hearty at 86, and so is Dr. Kevin O'Doherty, who, as a young medical student, was three times tried for high treason. Sir Gavan Duffy was tried no fewer than four times for the same offence without the Crown being able to get a verdict. Felony cases are invariably tried by a common jury, but for the fourth trial of the Queen v. Duffy special jurors alone were summoned. Every name was taken from a list composed, according to statute of 'the sons of peers, baronets and knights, squires, bankers, merchants, and traders worth £5000!' But public opinion was too strong. The jury disagreed, and Mr. Duffy, as he then was, was released on bail, to enter the House of Commons, and soon afterwards to win for himself fame and fortune in Australia.

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