

sent him. The trustees appointed by the Corporation and the Feee Library committee will immediately invite plans for the library.

Estate Commissioner

Mr. Michael Finucane, Companion of the Star of India, who will be one of the new Estate Commissioners, is a son of Mr. James Finucane, of Limerick. He married in 1889 Lola Gertrude, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Mathew, of the Indian Medical Service. Mr. Finucane is a Secretary to the Government of Bengal Revenue and General Statistics Department. He was educated at a private school, and afterwards at the Queen's College, Cork, and is an M.A. of the late Queen's University. He entered the Indian Civil Service in 1872, became Under-Secretary for Bengal in 1880; Director of the Department of Land Records and Agriculture in Bengal in 1884; Officiating Secretary of the Government of India Revenue and Agriculture Department in 1894; and is a member of the Legislative Council of Bengal. He was decorated for famine services in 1897, and he has published a work entitled 'The Bengal Truancy Act.'

Electric Power System

The prospectus of the Shannon Water and Electric Power Company, with a capital of £360,000, has been issued. The company has been incorporated under a special Act of Parliament, whereby it is authorised to establish and maintain stations in Limerick and the surrounding area for the purpose of generating electricity and supplying electric energy in bulk. The area of supply under the Act is approximately a radius of 80 miles in the counties of Clare and Limerick, and includes many important towns, and the company is authorised under its Act to afford financial assistance towards the development of new manufactories, mills, workshops, industries, etc. It will be seen from this that there is a very extensive field for the operations of the company.

MAYO.—Death of a Westport Man

Mr. P. J. Kelly, chairman of the Westport Board of Guardians and District Council, and one of the largest merchants in the town, died towards the end of March. Deceased was held in the highest esteem and respect by all classes, and his death came as a very painful surprise to his vast circle of friends and acquaintances.

A Splendid Reception

The Most Rev. Dr. Healy paid his visit as Archbishop of Tuam to Westport on March 19, and met with a most enthusiastic reception from his parishioners, for Westport is an archiepiscopal parish. The horses were taken from his carriage, which was drawn, amidst deafening cheering from an enthusiastic crowd of some thousands of people, to the presbytery, where the Archbishop was presented with an address by the Urban Council. In reply his Grace delivered a most important speech on the subject of Irish land, and especially on the grazing evil in the West. What he saw of the land gave him the impression that it was not in the hands of men who were able and willing to till it. No Government could justify itself before the Empire, and before the nations of Europe, which would permit the recurrence of famine in a population where industrious men were starving on wretched patches of mountain, while the better lands, which were untilled and would feed the people, were devoted only to the sustenance of cattle. Although he had no authority to speak, he could undertake to tell them that this matter would be taken in hand by the Government before the present year was out, and that they would probably see a public authority erected shortly, furnished or strengthened with ample powers to bring about a great reform on terms of justice and equity for all. He would be wanting in his duty as an Archbishop, as a priest, as a Christian man, if he did not do his utmost to cause the utter misery and wretchedness so frequently seen in that district to disappear for ever. He believed in a glorious future for Irishmen of every creed and class if they would unite, forget past difference, help their countrymen to live at home, and do away with the disgrace of having to appeal to large-hearted people, when they themselves were willing to work and had the means of subsistence before them.

GENERAL.

A Monumental Work.

Canon O'Hanlon, P.P., Sandymount (says the 'Freeman's Journal'), is to be congratulated on the recent issue, Part 102, of his monumental 'Lives of the Irish Saints,' bringing the work down to October 12th. The present instalment deals with the lives of those Irish servants of God whose feasts are commemorated on October 10th, 11th, and 12th, whose names will be new save to the few scholars who have made a study of Irish hagiology. Much the greater part of the work under notice is filled with a critical memoir of St. Canice (Canneach or Kenny), patron saint of Kilkenny, adequately illustrated, wherein the venerable Canon has utilised the latest researches for the purpose of elucidating all that is genuinely known of this great saint, who died on October 11th, 598, at Aghaboe, Queen's County. Three more parts will complete Volume X., completing the month of October, and it is to be hoped that the aged pastor of Sandymount will be spared to finish the two remaining volumes. Canon O'Hanlon has been 35 years laboring at the compilation of the Irish 'Acta Sanctorum,' surely a stupendous monument of unwearied labor, as may be evidenced in the 6528 pages in royal octavo now printed by Messrs. Sealy, Bryers, and Walker.

People We Hear About

Mr. Michael Davitt, who is called the Father of the Land League, celebrated his 56th birthday on March 27.

The committee formed to promote the memorial to the late Lord Russell of Killowen met recently, and, having at their disposal a greater sum than is necessary for the memorial in the Law Courts, decided to present a bust in marble to the Associated Bar of New York.

Mrs. Annie E. Donahoe, widow of Mr. Patrick Donahoe, founder of the Boston 'Pilot,' died on Monday, March 9, in the 79th year of her age. Mrs. Donahoe, whose maiden name was Davis, was in her youth a woman of great personal beauty. In 1855 she became the second wife of Patrick Donahoe.

Among the many prominent Irish-Americans mentioned in a New York journal as 'billed' to visit Ireland this summer mention is made of Mr. John J. Finerty, editor of the Chicago 'Citizen,' and president of the United Irish League in the States. As it is close on 40 years since Mr. Finerty, then a Galway stripling, left his native land, he will, doubtless, witness some vast changes in the general aspect of the country. Mr. Finerty, it is stated, will be accompanied in his tour by Mr. P. Shelley O'Ryan, a prominent member of the Irish National Societies in Chicago. Mr. O'Ryan, who is a Cashel man, was a leading Tipperary Nationalist in the Land League days of over 20 years ago.

The following passage which occurs in the course of an interesting article published by the London 'Law Times,' entitled 'Sir Charles Gavan Duffy and the Bar,' will be of interest to our readers:—'It is perhaps not generally known that the Young Ireland movement on its literary side was largely the work of members of the Bar. The scheme for the establishment of the "Nation," the organ of that movement of which Duffy was the editor and proprietor, was actually formed in the hall of the Four Courts, Dublin, as the result of a prolonged conversation between Duffy and John Blake Dillon and Thomas Davis, who were both members of the Bar and leading contributors subsequently to the "Nation." Then, again, John O'Hagan, afterwards Mr. Justice O'Hagan, the first Judicial Land Commissioner; Mr. Michael Joseph Barry, subsequently a divisional magistrate; and Mr. John Edward Pigot, a son of Lord Chief Baron Pigot, who subsequently had a successful career at the Indian Bar, were all members of the "Nation" staff. That paper, which created a new literary epoch in Ireland, may without exaggeration be considered as a movement of the higher mental culture of members of the Bar.'

Mr. J. F. Hogan, M.P., writing in the London Daily Chronicle about the Pontifical Jubilee of his Holiness the Pope, incidentally observes—'One of the best descriptions of an interview with Pope Leo XIII. is to be found in a book which, from its title, "Thirty Years of Colonial Government," would hardly be expected to contain anything of that sort. It is practically the autobiography of the late Sir George Bowen, who wrote a "Handbook of Greece" for the house of Murray, and published various other books of Eastern travel before he went out to Australia as the first Governor of Queensland. He was afterwards Governor of Victoria, New Zealand, and Mauritius. He was a versatile Irish Protestant, who distinguished himself at Oxford, and subsequently mastered Italian and other languages of Southern Europe. He was received with special favor at the Vatican. Pope Leo said: "We have had excellent reports of you from our Australian bishops," and thanked him for his fairness and kindness in all matters appertaining to the Catholic Church in the colonies. During the audience the Pope held the hand of Sir George's little daughter while he vivaciously conversed on colonial affairs. Sir George was deeply impressed by the Pope's charming courtesy, ripe scholarship, and statesmanlike mind.'

Lady Butler, whose pilgrim notes from the Holy Land are on the eve of publication, has been all her life a great traveller. Her parents were staying at Lausanne (where Charles Dickens was their guest) when Lady Butler was born, and many of her early years were spent in Italy, where as a girl she sketched not only soldiers but monks. She had always an eye for a habit or a uniform, and one of her earliest pictures shows us a row of little peasant boys being taught their catechism by a brown-habited, bare-headed Franciscan. She was in Rome at the time of the Vatican Council, and she went on the great English pilgrimage to Pontigny. After her marriage Lady Butler accompanied her husband to some of his distant commands, and it was during his tenure of the command of the British forces at Alexandria that she made the expedition to Palestine, which is now recorded. Lady Butler writes with rare feeling of the scenes she visited, and her book is more of a Pilgrim's Script than any that has yet been published in modern England. Not as a tourist, but as a worshipper, has she entered the Holy Places; and the sketches she there made were made, some of them literally, but all of them metaphorically, upon her knees. These occupy sixteen full pages of the volume about to appear, and they have been reproduced in colors under her own supervision in order to secure an exact fidelity to the originals.