

Society enjoyed many advantages. Their membership was large, and they received every encouragement from the leaders of the Irish Industrial Movement. He contrasted the happy conditions under which the girls engaged in the industry worked with the condition of girls in big cities in England, Scotland, and America, where some of the girls who were now engaged in lace-making might have emigrated were it not for the pluck and enterprise of Father Maguire and those associated with him in the undertaking. The girls engaged there were free and independent. They were at liberty to take up the work and leave it off at their own convenience. Their occupation was a healthy one, and they were at home with their own people, helping to add to domestic happiness and social independence, and to maintain the nation by the labor of their hands and brains.

WEXFORD.—The Dawn of a Brighter Day

In opening the Summer Assizes at Wexford Judge Johnson, addressing the Grand Jury, said there were only six cases to go before them—two of larceny and four of assault—none of them being of a serious nature. They did not in any degree reflect upon the tranquility or peace of the country. The country appeared to be settling down everywhere, and in the peaceful pursuit of industrial enterprises the bitter past of Ireland would recur, he trusted, to their memories only as the imperfect recollections of the disordered dream of a troubled and restless night on the approaching dawn of a bright and happy day.

GENERAL

The Dog Tax

A Parliamentary return shows that during the year 1902 432,847 dogs were registered in Ireland, and the amount of dog license duty received was £43,284, 14s. The proportion of this payable to town and county authorities was £17,748 19s.

The King's Example

In estimating the effect of the Royal visit to Ireland the "Sheffield Daily Telegraph," whilst holding that allowance must be made for the natural desire of the Irish to show kindness to strangers, wisely points out that the English people may well draw a moral from the King's example. His Majesty's words in his message of condolence on the death of the Pope, in his references to his audience with the Holy Father, and in his public thanks to the people of Dublin were so tactful that the writer in the Sheffield paper wishes he could impart the secret to his Ministers. When George III. was told that a certain energetic officer must be mad, he said he wished that officer would bite his generals, and on the same principle the "Sheffield Daily Telegraph," comparing the King's sureness of touch with the bungling way in which Chief Secretaries have often dealt with Irish affairs, sighs for some method of inoculation. It is to be feared that even if the inoculation took place the effects would only be temporary. The most distinctive feature of the Government's Irish policy has always been its varying character. When it has been conciliatory for a while, it then repents and takes an opposite direction.

Agricultural Prospects

Reports from nearly all parts of the country regarding the present appearance of the crops at the close of July (says the "Irish People") would go far to indicate that farmers have strong reason to look forward to a fair average harvest. In the early part of the season growth was in a very backward state, owing to the severe climatic conditions, which were succeeded by such a prolonged period of comparative drought, but since the more genial weather recently experienced set in growth has progressed wonderfully. Grain crops generally seem to be doing well, though in oats there will be disease of a light kind is manifesting its presence in some, taken all round, is one of excellent promise, though disease of a light kind is manifesting its presence in several centres. Spraying has been largely availed of by farmers. Root crops have been greatly assisted in their growth by the recent rains, and mangolds and turnips are up to a good standard.

The 'Excelsior' plough is 'Champion of the World.' On hillside, lea, swamp, tussock, or stubble, it is equally at home.—Morrow, Bassett, and Co., sole agents in New Zealand.—***

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People We Hear About

Mr Alfred Percival Graves, author of 'Father O'Flynn,' has contributed a poem on the death of Leo XIII. to 'John Bull.'

Mr. William O'Brien, M.P., has undergone a slight operation for an affection of the throat, and has been ordered abroad for some time.

Cardinal Vaughan's small estate of £700 at his death is no new thing in the diocese of Westminster. His predecessor, Cardinal Manning, left only £100 as his whole worldly wealth.

'There are many men,' says the Sydney 'Telegraph,' 'who have closely watched the work of the Federal Parliament, and seen something of the methods of the Federal Administration, who regard Mr. O'Connor as the real strong man of the Barton Cabinet. Certainly, as a Parliamentary tactician and as a manager of men he has no equal in either House.'

Mr. Justice Conolly, who is retiring from the Supreme Court Bench, has just entered on his 82nd year. When in Gisborne lately he expressed himself that August had been his eventful month. He was born in August, called to the Bar in August, made Minister of Justice in August, and would most likely die in the month of August.

Mr. F. R. Chapman, barrister and solicitor, of Dunedin, son of the late Mr. Justice Chapman, has been selected to succeed Mr. Justice Conolly as a Supreme Court Judge. The new Judge, after completing his education in England and on the Continent, was called to the English Bar in 1871. He came out to Dunedin in the following year, and was in partnership for some time with Mr. Strode before joining the firm of Messrs. Smith, Chapman, and Sinclair.

Mr. W. F. Massey, the member for Franklin, who has just been appointed leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, is an Irishman. He was born in Londonderry in 1856, and arrived in New Zealand in 1871, being then only 15 years of age. He is engaged in farming pursuits at Mangere, Onehunga. In 1894 he was elected as member of the House of Representatives for Waitemata. He represented this constituency for three years. Since then he has represented Franklin. He was appointed Opposition Whip in 1895, and has practically acted in that capacity ever since.

It is a mistake to suppose that Dr. Kevin Izod O'Doherty is the last survivor of the Young Ireland men. Mr. Martin MacDermott, also a 'Nation' poet, and the man who represented the Young Ireland Party in Paris before the attempted insurrection, is still living, and is at present residing in Bristol. He was born in Dublin just eighty years ago. Mr. MacDermott was chief architect of the Khedive of Egypt for many years. A few years ago, at the request of Sir Charles Gavan Duffy he edited the 'Poems and Ballads of Young Ireland,' and also Tom Moore's 'Memoir of Lord Edward Fitzgerald.'

Sir Anthony MacDonnell, Under Secretary for Ireland, has (says the 'Tablet') been added to the Privy Councillors of Ireland. The honor, high in any case, is enhanced by the fact that its latest recipient was only last year created a Privy Councillor in England. Fifty-nine is the age of the new colleague of the Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, of Mr. Justice Kenny, of the MacDermot, K.C., of the O'Connor Don, of Lord Chief Baron Palles, and of the Earls of Fingall and Westmeath—to name the Catholics already upon that Dublin roll of responsibility and honor.

The Right Rev. Dr. Bourne, Archbishop-designate of Westminster, was born in Clapham, London, four years before the death of Cardinal Wiseman. His education up to his ordination was obtained at St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw; St. Edmund's, Ware; St. Sulpice, Paris; and the Louvain University. His brilliant attainments caused his appointment as Rector of Southwark Diocesan Seminary in 1889. In 1895 he was appointed Domestic Prelate by Leo XIII., and in 1896 was chosen as Coadjutor-Bishop of Southwark; and in 1897 succeeded to the full government of that diocese. Youth, scholarship, zeal, and a training amid the new conditions which affect his native London more perhaps than any other portion of the world, distinguish Dr. Bourne as a fit successor of the three great men who in modern times have well filled the chair of Westminster.

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