

Irish News

GENERAL.

The people of Abbeyfeale and other friends of the late Dr. Willie McCarthy, are presenting two magnificent stained glass windows as a memorial to him to the parish church.

A new toy-making industry has been started in Galway by the Patrician Brothers in connection with their schools. The work is done on Saturdays outside school hours, but the Brothers hope to have it made one of the school subjects. The proceeds of the sale will be devoted to the purchase of tools and material to enable the boys to carry on the work in their own homes.

Rev. Robert Kane, S.J., was the preacher at a Solemn Requiem Mass offered in the Jesuit Church, Dublin, on November 12, for the past students of the Irish Jesuit College who have been killed in the war. In his sermon Father Kane said the Irish regiments, 'although shamefully ignored by the official diplomats, had been the spear-head of the British Army, now as always.'

Twenty of the alumni of Clongowes College have been killed, 28 have been invalided home as seriously wounded, 19 have been mentioned in despatches, two have received the decoration of the Distinguished Service Order, two have received the Military Cross, two have received the Cross of the Legion of Honor from the French Government, and one has received the French 'Medaille Militaire.'

Corporal Lyons, of the Staffordshire Regiment, who is a native of Rathkeale, Co. Limerick, was at home on leave in November. He was awarded the D.C.M. for great gallantry at Neuve Chapelle, when Sergeant Magee was shot in both legs, his left knee-cap having been blown away, and a dozen bullets from a machine gun having lodged in his right leg. Lyons volunteered to bring him in, and succeeded in doing so under constant fire from the enemy. The man he rescued tells of his heroism, Lyons himself not caring to discuss the matter, saying it was 'only what any one would do.'

The *Manchester Guardian* emphasises as very significant the statement of the Rev. Dr. Beecher, who, preaching at the consecration of Bishop MacRory, the new Bishop of Down and Connor, in Belfast on Sunday, November 14, dwelt on the prudence, kindness, and amiability of the new prelate, saying that 'there was not within the Sees of Ireland a man more ready to extend the hand of friendship, to speak the word of kindness, and tread the path of peace.' The selection of such a man as Catholic Bishop in Belfast, conjoined with the recent appointment of Dr. Bernard as Protestant Archbishop of Dublin, gives ground for the belief that one good result arising from the present terrible evil of war may be the 'bridging of the Boyne which divides North from South.'

MR. JOHN DILLON AND EMIGRANT-BAITING.

Mr. Dillon, in a letter to the secretary of the Bal-laghadereen branch of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, says all Nationalists must have been pained and horrified at the scenes in Liverpool at the arrival of the Irish emigrants. However wrong and mistaken some of the emigrants might have been in deciding to fly to America and desert their country at a crisis like this, they had a perfectly legal right to go, and, in reading of the shameful insults to which they were subjected, one could not forget the millions who went before them, and whose flight from Ireland was made the subject of insult and exultation by the English press and public of the days that were gone by. Referring to Lord Derby's warning to unmarried men, he said the Earl had no jurisdiction over recruiting in Ireland. But, dealing with it as applying to Great Britain only, he held it to be a most injudicious and mischievous statement. No man had a right to say to

the British people that conscription would be inflicted upon them until he had obtained the consent of the House of Commons, and that consent had not yet been given. He did not believe that compulsion would be attempted in Great Britain; but, whatever might happen there, there could be no doubt as to the position in Ireland, for the condition laid down in the Prime Minister's speech as essential to making compulsion or coercion in any shape practicable, viz., something approaching general assent, was plainly outside the limits of possibility in Ireland.

DEATH OF A FAMOUS FRANCISCAN.

The news of the death of Father David Fleming, O.F.M., has been received with deep regret (says the *Irish Catholic*). Although he had been ill for some time, still it was hoped that he would ultimately recover, and within the last week or two these hopes seemed likely to be realised. Providence, however, had ordained otherwise, and the great Irish Franciscan passed away on November 11 at the Franciscan Priory, Forest Gate, London, E. Father Fleming was born in Killarney in 1851; he was only eighteen when he joined the Franciscan Order, which he entered in Thielt, Belgium, in 1869. He was ordained in Ghent in 1875, and soon after was appointed Lector in Philosophy, which position he held for nine years. It was in 1884 that he was appointed Definitor of the Province and Guardian of St. Anthony's (Forest Gate), and some three years later, when the Franciscans of this country were separated, he was nominated Custos Regiminis. His next appointment was Provincial Minister of the English Province, O.F.M., which he attained in 1891. He took a very prominent part in the inquiry into the validity of Anglican Orders, being nominated by Cardinal Vaughan a member of the committee for the collection of evidence on that subject to be submitted to the Holy See in 1896, and he was subsequently appointed representative of the Church in England on the Papal Commission on Anglican Orders. At this period the Pope made him Consulor of the Holy Office (a life appointment), and in the year following he received a higher dignity when he became Definitor-General of the United Franciscan Order. For three years he was Vicar-General of the Order of Friars Minor, and another post which he held with distinction was that of Secretary to the Commission appointed by Pope Leo XIII. on Biblical studies.

IRELAND'S FIGHTING MEN.

Almost—if not quite—unique in the military annals of Aldershot was the visit of Cardinal Bourne to that great soldiers' centre on November 14, in order to inspect the Irish Nationalist troops quartered there. No parade ground could properly accommodate the great mass of khaki-clad Catholic soldiers, hence the large garrison recreation ground at Blackdown was utilised for the occasion. His Eminence, attired in his scarlet robes and hat, made a close inspection of the men from his motor-car, accompanied by the General Officer Commanding the division. At the close of the inspection the Cardinal took up a suitable position in the lines and addressed the men.

'You are,' he said, 'giving yourselves as free men, in the full use of your freedom, in the service of your country. It has been no kind of compulsion, but your own sense of duty, that has impelled you to take pains in defence of your country, the Empire, and your King. I have been asked more than once to make some sort of public appeal to young Catholic men to come forward and enter the Army. I have hesitated to make such an appeal simply and solely because, so far as my own information goes, such an appeal has not been necessary. I know that in England young Catholic men out of all proportion to our numbers in the community have come forward very nobly, and what I know to be true of English Catholics I believe to be true of our brethren in Ireland. The enemy counted on political dissension to render us impotent,