

Life cannot utter words more great
Than life may meet by sacrifice,
High words were equalled by high fate,
You paid the price. You paid the price.

*You who have fought on fields afar,
That other Ireland did you wrong
Who said you shadowed Ireland's star,
Nor gave you laurel wreath nor song.
You, proved by death as true as they,
In mightier conflicts played your part,
Equal your sacrifice may weigh,
Dear Kettle, of the generous heart.*

The hope lives on age after age,
Earth with its beauty might be won
For labor as a heritage,
For this has Ireland lost a son.
This hope unto a flame to fan
Men have put life by with a smile,
Here's to you, Connolly, my man,
Who cast the last torch on the pile.

*You, too, had Ireland in your care,
Who watched o'er pits of blood and mire,
From iron roots leap up in air
Wild forests magical of fire;
Yet while the Nuts of Death were shed
Your memory would ever stray
To your own isle. Oh, gallant dead—
This wreath, Will Redmond, on your clay.*

Here's to you men I never met
Yet hope to meet behind the veil,
Thronged on some starry parapet,
That looks down upon Innisfail.
And see the confluence of dreams
That clashed together in our night,
One river, born from many streams,
Roll in one blaze of blinding light.

—“E”

PEOPLE WE HEAR ABOUT

Sir David Hunter-Blair, who has resigned through ill-health the post of Abbot of Fort Augustus, comes of an ancient Scottish family long settled at Dunskey. In early life he left Magdalen College, and “went over to Rome” in a double sense, for he became Chamberlain to two Popes. He returned eventually to Oxford, where he founded Hunter-Blair's Hall for Benedictine students, thus securing a privilege which had been denied to Newman. Dom Hunter-Blair is the historian of the Catholic Church in Scotland, and has also written a charming little book, highly topical at the present moment, entitled *Jerusalem of To-day*. The Abbey of Fort Augustus, from which he retires, bears the unsavory name of the “Butcher” Duke of Cumberland. It was purchased from the Crown by the Lovat family, and was presented to the Benedictine community about forty years ago by the then Lord Lovat.

The *Tablet* publishes an interesting biographical notice of the Right Rev. Mgr. William L. Keatinge, who has been appointed by the Holy Father to be Army Bishop for the Catholic troops of the British Forces. The appointment derives a certain interest from the fact that he is the first Army Bishop appointed for service of the Catholics in the British Army. In Italy, Austria, Spain, and Germany there are already such bishops. Mgr. Keatinge was educated at Downside when Cardinal Gasquet was Prior. There he found his call to the priesthood. He went to the English College, Rome, and spent six years there attending the lectures in philosophy and theology at the Gregorian University. Ordained at St. John Lateran in 1893, he returned to England and was appointed curate to Father Murnane at Wandsworth. In 1887 he received his commission as army chaplain. In November, 1899, on the outbreak of the Boer War,

he was sent to South Africa and was posted to Natal with Buller's army. He was at the battle of Colenso and was a witness of the horrors of Spion Kop; he served in the various fights at Laing's Nek and on the Tugela Heights, and entered Ladysmith with the relieving force. He was mentioned twice in despatches, received the S.A. medal with five clasps, and at the end of the war he was promoted to the third class. After a term of home service at Aldershot, he served in Malta, and later in Egypt. In 1907 he was named privy chamberlain to Pope Pius X. When war was declared against Germany Mgr. Keatinge was appointed Senior Catholic Chaplain to the Expeditionary Force, and crossed to France with the Third Division in August, 1914. He was in the retreat from Mons and in the first battle of Ypres. It may be worth noting that at the beginning we had only seven Catholic chaplains in the war; now the total is not far off seven hundred. His war service has been chiefly on the Western Front, but in May, 1916, he was sent by the War Office to Egypt and Salonika to inspect and report on the arrangements made by the Catholic chaplains for the troops on these fronts. On his return he was appointed “principal chaplain” to the British Army at Salonika and was promoted to the rank of brigadier. During the war he has been mentioned in dispatches four times; in 1915 he was made C.M.G., and in the same year he was decorated by the President of the French Republic with the grade of Officer of the Legion of Honor. The Bishop-Elect is 48, the youngest of four children, of whom the three boys became priests, and the only girl a nun. His eldest brother is Canon Keatinge, of Tunbridge Wells; another brother was military chaplain for more than twenty years, served in the Nile Expedition under Lord Wolseley in 1884-5, and died at Tunbridge Wells in 1906. His only sister is the Reverend Mother of the Convent of the Faithful Companions of Jesus at Gumley House, Isleworth. Mgr. Keatinge, as his name indicates, is of Irish origin.

The war is taking heavy toll of Catholic Army chaplains (states the *Glasgow Observer*). Rev. Dr. Gordon, of Glasgow, and Rev. Henry Monteith, S.J., of Liverpool, are two of the latest to give their lives in discharge of their sacred duties. Now comes the news that a well-known Redemptorist priest, Rev. Father Bernard Kavanagh, C.S.S.R., C.F., has died of wounds. Capt. Kavanagh, who hailed from Limerick, where his relatives still reside, was on the English mission when he joined the Army, but had formerly been stationed at Kinnoull Monastery, Perth, and was well known as a missionary all over Scotland. At the outbreak of war Father Kavanagh was appointed chaplain to the forces in Egypt, accompanied the Palestine expedition, and was in the recent advance from Gaza to Jerusalem. Just outside the Holy City he was fatally wounded and died shortly afterwards, his remains being interred in the soil made sacred by the feet of the Redeemer. Father Kavanagh was in his 53rd year. A Perth correspondent sends the following interesting details:—News reached Perth of the death from wounds received in Palestine, on December 21, of the Rev. Father Bernard Kavanagh, formerly of St. Mary's, Kinnoull, Perth. He was 53 years of age. There is a touch of religious mysticism about the death of the distinguished member of the Redemptorist Order. Early in the war Father Kavanagh volunteered as a Catholic chaplain for the front. He was rejected many times owing to his poor physique, but he practically sat upon the steps of the War Office till at last his importunity obtained him an appointment on a hospital ship. This took him to Egypt, where he managed to get a transfer to our Army in that country. So that when the expedition was sent to Palestine he obtained the greatest desire of his heart—to enter the Holy Land and help in its delivery from the infidel. But, like Moses, he did not get all that he wished. He lived long enough to hear of the delivery of Jerusalem and the Holy Places, but his wounds received in ministering to his “boys” on the battlefield prevented his visit to the Holy Sepulchre.