

## Irish News

### GENERAL.

The death has occurred of Mr. Edward Synan, of Charleville, County Cork. He was an old '67 man, and prominent in all Nationalist movements for many years.

It appeared from a report read at a meeting of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland, that the number of the Society's publications issued last year was over half a million.

Two Capuchin Fathers, at the instance of the parish priest, Rev. T. Griffin, gave recently a fortnight's mission in Irish at Ballyferriter, County Kerry. This is a new departure in the Irish language movement.

At a meeting of the Donegal County Committee of Agriculture, Most Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe, was re-elected chairman. For the vice-chairman, Mr. Joseph McArthur, J.P., who is a Protestant, was proposed by Very Rev. Canon McFadden, Glenties (the Priest of Gweedore), in a felicitous speech. The nomination was unanimously agreed to.

The Holy Father's gift to the Dundalk Cathedral bazaar and fete, which is being organised to clear off the debt on parochial works, has given the keenest satisfaction to the Catholics of the town. The Pope's prize is an old copy of Raphael's famous masterpiece, 'The Madonna della Sedia,' in a richly carved frame. Monsignor O'Riordan has presented a splendid oil painting for the same meritorious purpose.

Mr. Churchill landed at Queenstown on July 1 with a number of Admiralty officials, and made an inspection of the Haulbowline dockyard. He afterwards received and replied to addresses from the Queenstown District Council and the local trade association. On the following day he visited Blarney Castle and kissed the Blarney Stone. Speaking in the evening, he dealt with Queenstown as a naval base. Its position both as relative to the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean was most important, he said, and he had strong hopes that the policy of the Admiralty might march hand in hand with the interests of the port and dockyard of Queenstown.

### DERRY AND HOME RULE.

Maghera was the scene on June 29 of one of the finest meetings ever held in South Derry to press forward the demand for national self-government. The gathering was remarkable in more senses than one. The organisation was taken charge of by Protestants and Catholics in Mr. Gordon's constituency, and the result was an assemblage of close on ten thousand people, composed of Liberals and Nationalists. The speakers included some of the best-known Protestant Home Rulers in South Derry, who stood side by side on the platform with trusted Nationalists from Derry, Antrim, and Tyrone. Though the organisers were obliged to announce a postponement of the meeting, and then fall back on the date originally fixed, the fact did not seem to have any material effect on the dimensions of the contingents, who came from all parts of South Derry and the districts of Antrim and Tyrone, while the greatest enthusiasm characterised the proceedings from start to finish.

### AN IMPOSING DEMONSTRATION.

Five counties were represented in the great Nationalist muster—thirty thousand strong, at the lowest estimate—held in Clones on June 29. Nothing could have better indicated the strength of the sentiment in favor of Home Rule, which exists in this very extensive and important section of the province of Ulster than the size of the rally from Monaghan, Cavan, Armagh, Fermanagh, and Leitrim, and the enthusiasm which permeated the proceedings from start to finish. It was a historical event, and the speeches delivered on the occasion by Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., Mr. R. Harcourt, M.P. (secretary of the English Home Rule Union), Mr. W. Redmond, M.P., and the local par-

liamentary representatives, Messrs. Lardner, Crumley, and Kennedy, were worthy of the occasion.

### THE CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

Very Rev. Canon Langan, D.D., P.P., who presided at the annual meeting of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland on June 27, in moving the adoption of the report, said it was an excellent one. An extraordinary number of the society's publications had been issued during the year—over half a million. Their books had been varied in character: some were historical; some were biographical; and some related to Rationalism and Socialism, which were so prevalent amongst the working classes in England and on the Continent, and which, he was sorry to say, were coming into some parts of Ireland. The books catered for every taste and every class of reader. They owed the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly their best thanks for his histories of Dublin parishes. There was not a single item in the report that was not worthy of warm admiration. They could congratulate themselves upon the immense advantages that the Catholic people derived from the spread of these beautiful publications in every parish and in every district in Ireland.

### FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE.

Owing to an alarming outbreak of foot and mouth disease, an embargo was placed upon Irish cattle by the English Board of Agriculture on June 29. Consignments of Irish cattle shipped before the embargo was made known were held up at Holyhead and other cross-Channel ports. This cessation in the Irish cattle trade, which was then at its height, was considered disastrous to all engaged in it, and caused consternation in all parts of the country. Twenty-four cattle affected with the dread disease were found on a farm in the vicinity of Swords, Co. Dublin, and the Department of Agriculture accordingly issued an order prohibiting all movements of cattle in the City and County of Dublin, and in Meath, Kildare, and Wicklow. This had the effect of preventing all fairs, markets, and sales in those counties at which cattle would be exposed. The order did not apply to horses. The Irish Department of Agriculture contends that the trouble did not originate in Swords, and that the infection was brought there by cattle dealers from the large centres in the North of England. The disease may be conveyed by clothing or boots from herd to herd. As England depends chiefly on Ireland for its supply of beef, the stoppage of imports led at once to an advance in the price of meat. The estimated value of meat imports from Ireland into Great Britain any week is £400,000. The country has been practically free from the disease since 1883, when half a million cattle had to be destroyed.

### THE RECORD BEATEN.

Unionists sometimes state (says a Dublin correspondent) that the majority of the Irish people take but little interest in the Home Rule question. The subscriptions to the National Fund from every county in Ireland are the very best answer to this most unfounded assertion, for people do not subscribe to a cause which they care nothing about. On June 29 the fund reached the fine total of £12,689, a much larger sum than that subscribed at the corresponding period of any year since it was inaugurated. It is interesting to note that Ulster, even the famous north-east corner, is well represented in the weekly lists of subscriptions. For instance, in the last one published we find Lurgan down for the very creditable sum of £95 5s 3d; Ballymena for £10 3s 6d; Saul and Ballee, Co. Down, for £20, and so on. This proves that many of the people of the now famous corner, share the desire of the majority of the Irish people for Home Rule.

### GAELIC WEEK.

The Oireachtas opened in the Rotunda, Dublin, on July 1, under promising auspices. The combining of the annual literary and musical festival with the Gaelic League Carnival was a wise step, as shown by the