

Irish News

GENERAL.

The *Manchester Guardian* estimates that the revenue derived by the British Treasury from Ireland between the years 1809 and 1911 exceeded the Government's expenditure in Ireland by an aggregate of not less than £329,000,000. Since 1911 the balance is the other way about. Ireland costs the Empire a million and a half annually more than Ireland yields. But deducting the paid-up excess of £329,000,000 at 2½ per cent., leaves the Empire Ireland's debtor to the amount of eight millions yearly.

In Sligo Cathedral on November 14 Mass of the Holy Ghost was celebrated, Most Rev. Dr. Healy presiding, after which a meeting of the Diocesan Chapter was held, with the object of selecting clergymen, whose names are to be submitted to the Holy See, with a view to one of them being selected successor to the late Most Rev. Dr. Clancy. According to the *Freeman's Journal* it is understood that the first of the names selected was that of Right Rev. Mgr. O'Riordan, Rector of the Irish College, Rome.

DEATH OF A POPULAR PRIEST.

In Tipperary there is general regret at the death of Very Rev. Canon Meagher, P.P., Templemore, which took place on November 16 after a long illness. Deceased had attained the patriarchal age of 85 years, 59 of which were spent in the sacred ministry. He was educated in the great ecclesiastical college of Maynooth, and having read a distinguished course, was appointed a curate in his native diocese. In the early seventies the late Most Rev. Dr. Leahy, then Archbishop of Cashel, sent him to America to collect funds for the building of Thurles Cathedral, at the time in course of erection. In his mission to the Irish exiles he was most successful. After a few years as pastor of Draugan, he was appointed to Templemore, where he had labored zealously since 1882. He was an active supporter of every movement calculated to serve his native land and to upraise the condition of her people.

NATIONAL PASTIMES.

With the Irish revival movement the manly games of the past have again come to the front. Fully twenty thousand assembled at Drumcondra on November 17 to witness a hurling championship in which Cork and Kilkenny were the competitors. The latter proved successful. It was a pleasure to see the kindly spirit displayed by the spectators, the strong and powerful making way for their weaker brethren. It was a greater pleasure still when all was over to see that there was no sign of intemperance. Victors and vanquished, with their respective sympathisers, wended their way home, shunning temptation.

RELIGION AND PARTY POLITICS.

Speaking at the opening meeting of Dublin University Gaelic Society in Trinity College, Rev. Canon Hannay, better known by his pen-name of 'George Birmingham,' said the question of priests in politics used to be a reproach which members of his Church cast at the Catholic Church in Ireland; but they had themselves degraded their Church. They had dragged it down into the mire of politics, and to him there was nothing in the happening of recent months in Ireland more terribly sad than the pitiful series of sophistical excuses made by the heads of the Church to which he belonged for what seemed to him an intolerable betrayal of the religion which they professed. They had got up time after time and said to people, whom they must have regarded as fools when they used such words, that the Home Rule question was not politics. To the man of taste it seemed to him that this dragging of religion into politics was disgusting. To the man of sincere and patriotic feeling that mingling of politics with religion was a sad and terrible thing. To the reli-

gious man it was worse than either of these, and he could imagine the Master saying, 'My house should be called a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of politicians.' Coming from a Unionist parson, this is strong evidence of the extent to which the Irish Protestant Bishops carry their zeal as party politicians.

DUBLIN LADY'S CHARITABLE BEQUESTS.

In the Chancery Division, Dublin, on November 18, before Mr. Justice Barton, the case of Mulligan v. Ennis was mentioned. It had reference to the estate of the late Miss Jane Mulligan, sister of the late Mr. John Mulligan, managing director of the Hibernian Bank. The deceased lady left an estate valued at £14,000, all of which she bequeathed to purposes of charity in the city of Dublin. After providing for specific charities the residue was to go to Sister Mary Ennis, Superioress of the Convalescent Home, Beaumont, Drumcondra. The matter was before the court in June last, and the parties now desired further time to consider what part of the landed estate it would be necessary to realise in order to pay the legacies. It was stated that the residuary legatees would bring in sufficient cash to discharge all pecuniary legacies and to retain the landed estate. His lordship made the order extending the time as required.

WORKMEN'S HOUSES IN LIMERICK.

Speaking at the meeting of the St. Vincent de Paul District Nursing Association at Limerick, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer congratulated the Mayor (Councillor T. Ryan) upon the building of houses for the working classes. It was a delight to see the change that had been wrought in St. John's parish, formerly a mass of wreck and ruin and a disgrace. He believed homes for workers ought to be found by those for whom they worked, on whom there was a moral obligation to do so, if reasonably within their power. A large company like the G.S. and W. Railway that had acquired a great monopoly in Limerick, and in two-thirds of the South of Ireland, should obtain money under the Working Classes Act, and build houses for every man in their employment in Limerick. If the facilities offered by that Act were availed of, the whole face of the city would be changed.

UNIONIST EMPLOYERS AND THE ORANGEMEN.

Addressing a very crowded meeting in Armagh on November 17, Mr. A. Newman said Ulster Unionist leaders opposed Home Rule because they knew it would mean improved conditions for the working classes. In the mind of the sweater there was always the thought that Home Rule would mean higher wages, for it would combine Protestant and Catholic, and Orange and Green would blend for the common good of democracy. Employers of labor had deliberately encouraged the masses to curse the Pope so that they might forget to curse sweating. Unionist masters cared as little for the Orangeman, apart from his political value, as they did for the tyres on their motor-cars. They had used the deluded Orangeman as a means of arriving at power and wealth; and when he was no longer valuable they cast him off and threw him away.

BISHOP O'DONNELL AND FEDERALISM.

In moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Thomas Arkins, M.A., who delivered an address on 'Federalism' at the inaugural meeting of University College Legal and Economic Society, Dublin, Right Rev. Dr. O'Donnell, Bishop of Raphoe, said that while the Home Rule Bill did not constitute Federalism, it paved the way for a great federation. They would have three or four National Parliaments, with a Federal or Central Parliament. Meantime it was quite vain to try to put the Irish arrangement into a category with any other. It was specially meant to suit the circumstances of Ireland, which did not correspond with the circumstances of any other settlement, especially because of the peculiarity of the Irish financial arrangement.

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