

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Sir John Arnott, the proprietor of the 'Irish Times,' sometime since purchased the 'Cork Constitution,' and his latest venture has been the Belfast 'Northern Whig.'

Germany has fully determined to eliminate everything French from her midst, and has now ordered that certain words derived from the French shall no longer be officially used.

Archbishop Manning granted an indulgence of forty days for each day to all in his diocese who abstained from drinking in a public-house on Christmas, Christmas-eve, or St. Stephen's day.

Many persons will be surprised to learn that Liverpool, England, is not an incorporated city. It is merely a town, and a movement is proposed in the direction of obtaining a city charter.

A petrified fragment of what was once a redwood tree was lately found in Napa county, Cal. It is eleven feet in diameter and sixty-seven feet long, and is supposed to have been originally 200 feet in length.

The revolution in Peru is not yet ended, and an effort was being made at last accounts to prevent the union of the insurgents with the Montoneros or Bandits. The leading Ultramontane papers favor the revolution.

The theory has been started that since the usefulness of whales has largely diminished through the discovery of mineral oils for illuminating purposes, the animals might be domesticated and employed for towing ships.

In England, there is one lawyer to every 1,240 of the population; in France, one for every 1,970; in Belgium, one for every 2,700, and in Prussia, one for every 12,000 only. Another curious fact is that in England the number of persons belonging to each of the professions is nearly the same. Thus there are 34,970 lawyers, 25,483 clergymen, and 35,995 physicians. In Prussia, on the other hand, there are 4,809 physicians to only 1,862.

The Bolognese have decided to erect a monument to Galvani, the discoverer of animal electricity.

The 'Tasmanian Tribune' speaking of the Governor's levee, says that there was a great variety in form and fashion of the cards that were used, but the most striking instance of an impromptu in that direction was the half of a bottle label on which the name of the worthy citizen who presented it was printed.

Fanny Ellsler, once a famous danseuse, is now a most devout Catholic.

Two hundred and thirty members of the British Parliament are now in favor of woman's suffrage.

Dr. Ball has been appointed Lord Chancellor of Ireland.

An old Irish veteran, named Dennis Tooney, who fought with Wellington at Waterloo, died a short time since, at the respectable age of 108.

Madame Nilsson, the opera singer, refuses to sing in German, because she has a Frenchman for a husband.

A California farmer claims to have grown 90 bushels of wheat to the acre from 60 pounds of clean white Australian seed.

A large archipelago of islands has been discovered in the neighborhood of New Guinea, and two mountains on them, each about 11,000 feet high.

A car hung on elastic springs by which all jolting is made nearly imperceptible to the passengers, is being tried on one of the French railroads.

There are 189 journals published in the Republic of France.

A decree has been issued in Spain suspending the jury system.

Two great hotels, the United States at Saratoga and the Pacific at Chicago, have gone into bankruptcy. Both have done a profitable business, but complications arising out of debts contracted in their construction have proved disastrous.

A little canal of twenty-three miles was wanted in China in 1825. Time must be precious there though life is so cheap. Only six weeks were given in which to dig it, though it went through great forests and over extensive marshes; twenty thousand men worked upon it night and day, and over seven thousand died of fatigue.

It is not generally known that among many towns in Europe no work is done on Mondays. Dr. Boyd, preaching on behalf of the hospitals of Devonshire, in Exeter, England, lately, calculated that the loss to the work-people engaged in the woollen manufactures, the cotton trade, and the bricklaying trade alone by "Idle Monday" amounted to £7,000,000 per annum.

Of the ten provincial mayors in Ireland during the present year but five are Catholics.

Ex Marshal Bazaine intends writing a book on "The Second Empire." The result must be bad for himself as well as the Empire.

It has been again currently reported that Mr. Disraeli intends entering the bonds of matrimony.

An American Senator on his road to Congress travelled 1529 miles in a buggy drawn by one horse. The time being 59 days.

An Irish prima donna is charming the Italians with her vocalism.

By a late decree the Japanese Government undertake to provide for all aged and incapacitated paupers.

It is stated that Bishop Ricards will visit Europe on matters connected with his diocese—the South African.

Paris has 791 periodicals, of which 113 are political, 99 scientific, 78 religious, 58 devoted to fashion, 42 legal, 39 financial, 14 military, 9 naval, and eight architectural.

There are at present 50 cardinals of whom 42 were created by the present Pontiff, and eight by Gregory XVI.

The great-grandson of Daniel Boone, the pioneer, has been elected speaker of the Missouri House of Representatives.

Mrs. Yelverton is living in Edinburgh and is engaged in writing a second volume of her travels.

James Gordon Bennett is one of the committee from the National Rifle Association to arrange for the coming Irish-American Rifle contest.

TUAPEKA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

It may be considered unnecessary on my part to pass any higher eulogium on the late Mrs. James Harris than that contained in the appended lines taken from the 'Tuapeka Times.' But from one who had known her since her arrival amongst us in the Tuapeka district, and witnessed her many acts of kindness among those with whom it was her lot to be associated, will be my excuse. Mrs. Harris's mild disposition and unassuming character in the sphere of life in which her lot was cast had endeared her to a large number of friends, who will deeply deplore her loss; and, as wife, mother, and a friend in need, she had few equals. For years past she had taken a leading part in collecting funds for the St. Patrick's sports, and helped in her adopted land to keep alive that enthusiastic spirit of nationality which has ever been the characteristic of the sons and daughters of her own dear native Erin. This week we miss her on the approach of St. Patrick's Day; her smile and greeting and fond pleading for assistance, from which there was no refusal. And no higher mark could be shown of the esteem she was held in than her funeral, the largest ever witnessed in Tuapeka; old and young friends and neighbours, and many from a distance, joined in the solemn procession that conveyed her remains to their last resting place in the Lawrence Cemetery. The Revs. Fathers Larkins and Crowley were in attendance, and read the grand and solemn burial service of the Catholic Church. Mrs. Harris was apprehensive for some time past that her stay here would not be long, and consequently was fully prepared according to the rules of the Catholic Church. Her friends will be glad to hear that the Rev. Father Larkins, her parish priest, was at her bedside during her last moments, administering consolation and the rites of the Church. Mr. James Harris has lost a good, prudent wife, and his children a tender and affectionate mother.—"It is not often we have to record the decease of any of our adult population, although occasionally one passes away from our midst. We regret to chronicle in this issue the death of Mrs. James Harris, the wife of one of our old and respected citizens. Mrs. Harris has been a resident in the Tuapeka district for upwards of twelve years, and was well known for her self-sacrificing disposition. She has been cut down in the midst of her years, and will be missed not only by her family, but by many who have experienced her uniform kindness." May she rest in peace.

ST. BATHANS.

(From a Correspondent.)

THE Rev. Father Walsh preached a very impressive sermon here on Sunday 28th February. His subject was on "Death and Sin," and he was listened to with the most ardent attention by the congregation. During his continuance in this portion of the parish he celebrates the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass every morning—on Sundays at 11 a.m., on working-days at 8 a.m., and Rosary every evening at 7.30 p.m. It is a great blessing for the Catholics of this parish to have a priest who will keep fuel to their holy Faith in this remote region, and enkindle it in the hearts of their descendants. He visits St. Patrick's school daily whilst here and devotes the most of the school-hours instructing the children. The number of children on the roll in this school is 33; of this number only 27 have been present this week. In regard to the proficiency of the children in their several studies I will say nothing, but I will give a copy of the Rev. Father Walsh's report on his first visit to the school—"Visited St. Patrick's School and was much pleased with the answering of the children in all the departments in which I examined them."—The Catholics of this locality are making great sacrifices to give a Christian education to their children.—Yours &c.,

A SUBSCRIBER.

St. Bathans, March 16, 1875.

HIBERNIAN AUSTRALASIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY.

GRAHAMSTOWN BRANCH, NO. 35.

THE Eighteenth quarterly Meeting of this Branch was held on Monday, March 1st, at the Hibernian Hall, Shortland; Bro. Foy, President, in the chair.

In consequence of the rush to Ohinemuri, the meeting was the most poorly attended since the opening of the Branch.

Roll of officers called. Bro. Clarke, V.P., absent—apology received. Members roll called, about 40 present. Fines received against absent members that sent no apologies. Minutes of previous meeting read and confirmed. The committee who were appointed to carry out the arrangements in connection with the celebration of the approaching festival of the Patron Saint of Ireland, gave an account of their stewardship. Motion by Bro. McIlhone: Whereas circumstances have arisen which render it prudent to rescind a resolution which was passed last meeting with regard to holding a Ball on St. Patrick's Day. Now the part referred to in said resolution, is hereby rescinded; the other part of it, namely, marching to Church in the morning, if sufficient members are left on the Th. mes to be acted on; carried. The only correspondence received was the report of the January meeting of the E.D., and the amendment's to the existing rules to be moved by them and by the Melbourne District at the annual meeting held last month. The sick report showed six members on the list, and the sum of £10 15s 10d, sick allowance, was granted them.

The following resolution was moved and carried—"That the gentlemen who were nominated and appointed at last meeting, in reference to Dr. Lethbridge, be requested to take such steps, as they may think fit, to carry out the spirit of the resolution on the subject."