

Irish News.

(From contemporaries.)

ANTIRIM.—Belfast Municipal Elections.—A public meeting of ratepayers to further the interests of the nominees of the Belfast Catholic Association for seats in the Belfast City Council, as representatives of the Falls and Smithfield wards, was held in St. Paul's Hall, Springfield road, on Monday, September 6. There was a crowded attendance. The Most Rev. Dr. Henry, the Bishop of Down and Connor, presided. Speaking on behalf of the nominees of the Association, his Lordship said:—"A good deal has already been done to remove the misunderstanding regarding the lines and objects of the Association of which these gentlemen are the nominees and standard-bearers. I am confident that a fuller understanding of the aims and objects and advantages of the Catholic Association is all that is needed to rally to their standard the electors of these two wards who are able to think and reason for themselves. I have great faith in the good sense and shrewdness and Catholic instincts of the people of these districts. Unless I am far mistaken they are not likely to allow themselves to be divided and defeated on account of mere sentiment. On the contrary, I believe you are all anxious for union in our ranks. Now, union against the forces of bigotry and intolerance, no matter from what quarter, is the watchword of the candidates of the Catholic Association. In closing our ranks, and advocating, as we should, united action among ourselves, I hope no one will be betrayed into saying anything calculated to embitter our opponents. It is not by violent or uncharitable methods, but by mutual forbearance, by argument and meekness under misrepresentation, you must show you are in the right, and conciliate those who may differ from you for a time in matters of detail, though on fundamental questions they are one with you in conviction and at heart. I have reason to believe that the candidates who are here to-night will be able to show to the electors that they are the right men in the right place. I am sure you are all anxious to hear them, and I will not stand between you and them any longer. They are like yourselves—good Catholics and good Nationalists. They are too well and favourably known to need recommendation from me. When their views are made known and their principles thoroughly understood, I hope and believe there will be unanimity and no division amongst us."

CLARE.—Killed by a Bull.—Mr. Coroner Cullinan, Ennis, on Monday, September 6, held an inquest at Lickeen, between Kilfenora and Ennistymon, on the remains of Tom Leary, of Lickeen, one of the best-known residents in the barony, whose body was found under shocking circumstances on Saturday. It appears that Leary went out on the lands on Friday evening at five. He did not return that night but his sister and brother did not feel any uneasiness, fancying he had gone to a neighbour's house for the night. Not returning a search was made, and his body was found lying across a small stream at the end of a paddock where a young bull was kept by deceased. He was quite dead, and from the appearance of the place it would seem as if he had been attacked by the bull and rolled or butted a considerable distance by the animal before being finally flung down a declivity some ten feet where the body was found. There were three ribs broken. The jury found that the deceased was killed by the bull. According to what was elicited in the evidence Leary was one of the five men who were sentenced to long terms of imprisonment in connection with the memorable moonlight attack on the house of farmer Sexton at Ballycastle, Lisdoonvarna, in which Head Constable Wuehen, Ennis, lost his life. He was only released from gaol two years ago after eight years' confinement. Leary was a man of magnificent physique.

CORK.—Youghal Presentation Convent Lace Industry.—A meeting has been held in the schoolroom of the Presentation Convent, Youghal, for the purpose of forming a co-operative society in connection with the lace-making hitherto carried on under the guidance of the Presentation Nuns. Besides an attendance of influential clergy and laity, the Rev. Superioress, a number of the community, and about fifty lace-workers were also present. Archdeacon Keller, in introducing Father Finlay, S.J., said it had occurred to him that if the lace-workers formed themselves into a co-operative society it would be a great stimulus to the industry, and a means of increasing their income. They had there the means of forming such a society, and Father Finlay had attended for the purpose of explaining to them the means and object of the establishment of a co-operative society, and of showing them the advantages to be derived. He trusted that when the society was formed they would throw themselves with renewed energy and earnestness into the work. Father Finlay said the lace-workers of Youghal and the industries of Ireland as a whole owed a very deep debt to the nuns of the Presentation Order. The industry of lace-making, for which Youghal has become so famous, not only in Ireland, but in the markets of London, Paris, and Vienna, had long ago made its name. It was created by the nuns of that community and by the interest they took in the condition of the poor of Youghal. They started it first immediately after the famine years to supply remunerative employment to the poorer classes. First learning the secrets of the industry themselves they afterwards taught the people and then secured a market for the produce of their skill. It was a sort of final completion of the system of education maintained there. The Presentation Convent was one of those places in which the interesting and important problem of practical education was really solved. Most of those who had carefully studied the question of practical education would agree with him that it did not matter much what the children were taught unless some means was afterwards provided to exercise the skill acquired at school. The nuns of the Youghal Presentation Convent wisely

combined two things—they taught the children the use of their fingers, and afterwards provided them with an industry in which their skill was employed. And, more important still, they procured a market for the sale of the results of their labour. But he would undertake to say that the final and crowning benefit to the lace-workers would be conferred on them when the industry, so laboriously created by the good nuns, would be entrusted entirely to themselves, to be the absolute owners. Father Finlay, having given a detailed history of the rise of the co-operative system and of its advantages, said the good results achieved in Ireland were mainly due to the influence of the clergy of the different localities, who had as a rule recommended the system, and been its best friends and supporters. The priests of Ireland understood, as no one else did, the hardships of their own people, and there was no class of philanthropists so keenly in sympathy with the hardships of the people as their spiritual directors. It was for them in Youghal a matter for congratulation that they had amongst them a man enlightened enough to see the drift and aims of that movement and sympathising so keenly with the wants and necessities of his parishoners, that he was prepared to take upon himself the worry of seeing it applied and successfully carried out. The industry was already created, and they had only to take it over in a finished and highly-developed state. He hoped it would bring a large return of wealth to the industry, and that they would become thriving and prosperous workers.

DUBLIN.—The Wolfe Tone Memorial.—There seems to be some peculiar mix up with regard to the '98 centenary and the Tone statue. Mr. Clancy proposed a resolution at the Dublin Corporation to grant a site to the Executive Committee for the memorial. The Executive Committee having in advance repudiated Mr. Clancy's proposal the resolution was rejected. It appears that Mr. Clancy was acting on behalf of what is called the Irish National Alliance, which the Sub-Sheriff with an expansiveness quite American in its way translates as "the Irish race in America." The idea of the Alliance in America suggesting to Mr. Clancy to offer a site to a committee in Dublin which does not want it is so complex (says the *Dublin Freeman*) that we despair of understanding it. If the '98 centenary celebration movement were on a broader and more representative basis perhaps all these difficulties and complications might be avoided. There is, we fear, a tendency on certain National occasions for a few people to think that they alone have the true deposit of patriotic faith, and the result is usually a fizzle. No one can have failed to have observed that the Parliamentary representatives of the people are more or less excluded from this movement. These, we feel sure, however, will not finally prevent a spontaneous National celebration when the time comes, and when the people in their desire to honour the men of '98 will ignore all sectional engineering and machinery and show that the spirit of '98 still lives and flourishes.

Convents and Textile Exhibition.—Says a writer in the *Freeman's Journal*:—"The exhibitors, owing to the variety of some of their manufactures, were represented by 257 exhibits, of which 71 were from convent schools, 61 from manufacturing firms, 57 private individuals, and 27 other schools or co-operative organisations, the remainder being merchants or agents. Three-fourths of the private exhibitors were from ex-pupils of the convents. Therefore the magnificent total of 128 exhibits out of 257 in the exhibition, or practically one-half, must be credited to the teaching work of the convent schools."

The '93 Centenary Committee.—An important resolution was adopted at the last meeting of the '93 Centenary Committee. After a long discussion it was decided to increase the membership of the Executive Council by several additions, including the president and secretary of the Amnesty Association, the presidents and secretaries of the Trades Councils of Ireland, two of the principal officers of the Irish National Foresters and the Ancient Order of Foresters, and the president and secretary of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The meeting also came to an agreement as to the representation upon the committees of counties which up to the present have not taken part in the movement for the celebration of the '93 centenary. In the provinces the celebration has been taken up with great interest, and a project for the erection of a suitable memorial in Kilrush has won the practical sympathy and co-operation of Claremen at both sides of the Atlantic.

GALWAY.—The Cottage Industries.—In 1891 the Sisters of Mercy at Clontarf, Co. Galway, attempted to revive cottage industries. They had no capital, no experience in commerce. Yet they have admirably succeeded. This year they have carried out an order for richly coloured vestments of purple linen for the Bishop of the diocese. A marriage gift of handkerchiefs sent to England the other day held its own at the show of presents, and was much appreciated. About 30 girls are now employed in the convent workrooms. The Sisters have shown that Galway fingers can work as deftly and as diligently as the long-trained fingers of Belfast or Limerick. But the want they feel is that of capital. Lovers of Ireland may wish to give a helping hand to the brave Sisters who have already done so much to increase and popularise Irish industries.

A New Cathedral Church for Loughrea.—An important meeting in connection with the scheme for providing the ancient parish and town of Loughrea with a new church was held at Portlanna, under the presidency of the Bishop of Clonfert. The contract of £13,000, pre-ented by Mr. P. Glynn, has been accepted. The total cost is estimated at about £17,000. The foundation-stone of the new building was laid last month. The priests and people of the parish have fulfilled a noble and strikingly generous mission in raising amongst themselves the sum of over £10,000 towards the building expenses.

LIMERICK.—The Artisans' Dwellings Scheme in Limerick.—At a meeting of the Limerick Corporation the Bishop, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Dwyer, attended, and referred to the progress