

characteristics for which his Lordship and the members of his family are noted.'

MAYO.—Landlords Willing to Sell their Estates.—At a recent meeting of the Swineford District Council letters were read from a number of landlords who were willing to treat for the sale of their estates to the tenants. Among these were Messrs. George Browne, A. H. Knox, Charles O. Blake De Burgh, Nicholas Lynch, and John O'Rourke. Mr. De Burgh, having stated that his ancestors had owned lands in Mayo and Galway for 622 years, added—'I think with you that the time has come to make a change, and let the tenants become possessors of their own farms.'

MEATH.—A New Church at Moynalvey.—On Sunday, October 8, the Most Rev. Dr. Gaffney, Bishop of Meath, laid the foundation-stone of a new church at Moynalvey, County Meath, the old church having become unsuited to its sacred purposes. The new structure, which has been designed by Mr. Byrne, of Dublin, will be a handsome edifice in the Romanesque style. High Mass was celebrated after the ceremony, and an eloquent sermon was preached by the Rev. Phillip Gallery, P.P.

ROSCOMMON.—St. Patrick's Church, Castlereagh.—One of the most beautiful ceremonies of the Church was witnessed on Rosary Sunday in Castlereagh, when within the stately and imposing edifice of St. Patrick's the altars were solemnly consecrated. The High Altar is the gift of the Children of Mary. The sermon at High Mass was preached by the Most Rev. Dr. Lyster, Bishop of Achonry, and at Vespers by the Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Elphin.

SLIGO.—The Bishop of Elphin on Intemperance.—The Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Elphin, attended at the annual reunion of the Sligo Total Abstinence League of the Sacred Heart, and delivered a forcible address on the drink evil. It was an age, his Lordship said, of democracy, when brain and heart strained towards the betterment of man. Power now lay in the hands of the multitude, not as before, when the government of the country belonged to a few. Woe then to the country whose masses were not intelligent, independent, and self-reliant. He dwelt at length on the evil effects of intemperance, the poverty, ignorance, and sin which it entailed, and referred to the public results of intemperance upon the nation, and to the manner in which the channels of political life were corrupted and contaminated by the liquor traffic. What was the great remedy for the great evil? The chief of these remedies was total abstinence, the extension of the League of the Sacred Heart, and the creation of a healthy public opinion against drunkenness.

TYRONE.—Death of a Sister of Mercy.—General regret was felt in the district of Leglands, Tyrone, when the news reached there that Sister Genevieve, of the Convent of Mercy, St. John's Wood, London, and eldest daughter of Mr. Peter Russell, of Leglands, was dead. The deceased had only been received into the Order about six months prior to her death. She was stricken down with influenza in the beginning of July. This illness resulted in a mild attack of typhoid fever, which gradually became more serious, and finally, despite the most eminent medical attendance, it proved fatal. Deceased passed to her reward surrounded during her last illness by the good Sisters, her mother, brother, and her sister Gertrude, of the Convent of Mercy, Gravesend.

WICKLOW.—The Father Murphy Memorial.—On the invitation of the committee formed in Wicklow for the purpose of erecting a memorial to Father Murphy, the patriot priest of '98, the Very Rev. Father Kavanagh delivered a lecture there on October 1, on the Rebellion of '98, dealing in a very eloquent manner with the origin of the movement, and paying a fine tribute to the patriotism of the men who sacrificed everything for the cause of liberty. The Very Rev. James Dunphy presided, and there was a very large audience. Special interest was attached to the proceedings from the fact that the rev. lecturer, who presented such a brilliant picture of the most memorable event in the history of Ireland, is a grand-nephew of the martyr-priest.

GENERAL.

The Tourist Traffic.—With a view of enlisting the powerful aid of the County Councils of Ireland in the development of the tourist traffic, Mr. F. W. Crossley has written to each Council suggesting the formation of a committee to deal with such matters as the proper upkeep of posting roads, improvement of hotels in district, preservation and cultivation of inland fisheries, game protection, collection of information as to the special features of attraction, and the dissemination of information through the medium of the Press, guides, and other means. The suggestion is a very feasible one, and no doubt will commend itself to the several Councils.

Social Condition of Irishmen in the United States.—Statistics have of late appeared in the American Press showing the social condition of the Irish-born citizens of the United States: In 1870 there were 1,850,000 Irish-born people in the United States; in 1880, 1,855,000; in 1890, 1,871,000. In 1880 residents of Irish parentage numbered 4,530,000, and in 1890 4,826,000. Of the German-born population, 20 per cent. are farmers; of the Irish-born population, 6 per cent. The total number of Irish-born persons pursuing gainful occupations was in 1880 979,000, and in 1890 1,065,000. In 1880 22 per cent. of the Irish-born population were labourers. In 1890 the percentage of Irish-born labourers was 19. While the number of unskilled Irish-born labourers shows some decrease, there is a gain in Irish-born skilled labour. In the professions, Irish-born people are also making progress. Here are facts for the votary of temperance—indicating that not only the Irish, but also the Germans are leaving the liquor business:—Irish-born saloon-keepers in 1880, 8,500; in 1890, 7,500; German-born saloon-keepers in 1880, 21,000; in 1890, 19,200.

CARDINAL MORAN ON CATHEDRALS AND CATHEDRAL BUILDERS.

PREACHING at the Sacred Heart Church, Darlington, a few Sundays ago his Eminence Cardinal Moran said:—Perhaps no monuments of medieval piety surpassed the grand old Cathedrals of England, and with those sanctuaries of her early piety are linked some of the most endearing monuments of those ages of faith. Many of those Cathedrals have been usurped by an alien Church, not a few of them are in ruins, but around them all still linger the Catholic traditions of those ancient days, the fragrance of the piety of the religious hearts that erected them. A distinguished American writer, who a few years ago visited those monuments, declared that the Catholic Church in erecting those grand Cathedrals made 'architecture

'A LIVING SYMBOL OF CELESTIAL ASPIRATION,'

and he added:

'I am not a churchman; but I would also say that the best hours of my life have been hours of meditation passed in the glorious cathedrals and among the sublime ecclesiastical ruins of England. I have worshipped in Canterbury and York, in Winchester and Salisbury, in Lincoln and Durham, in Ely and in Wells; I have stood in Tintern, when the green grass and the white daisies were waving in the summer wind, and have looked upon those grey and russet walls, and upon those lovely arched casements—surely the most graceful ever devised by human art—round which the sheeted ivy droops, and through which the winds of heaven sing a perpetual requiem. I have seen the shadows of evening slowly gather and softly fall over the gaunt tower, the roofless nave, the giant pillars and the shattered arcades of Fountains Abbey, in its sequestered and melancholy solitude, where ancient Ripon dreams; and the spacious and verdant Valley of the Skell. At a midnight hour I have stood in the grim and gloomy chancel of St. Columba's Cathedral, remote in the storm-swept Hebrides, and looked upward to the cold stars, and heard the voices of the birds of night mingled with the desolate moaning of the sea. With awe, with reverence, with many strange and wild thoughts I have lingered and pondered in those haunted, holy places; but one remembrance was always present—the remembrance that it was the Catholic Church that created those forms of beauty, and breathed into them the breath of a Divine life, and hallowed them for ever, and, thus thinking, I have felt the unspeakable pathos of her long exile from the temples that her passionate devotion prompted and her loving labour reared.'

Go to the sister isle. The hallowed ruins scattered broadcast over her smiling valleys and green hills tell you of those ages when

A PEERLESS NAME AND AN UNDYING FAME

were the proud heritage of the sainted island of the west. From those sanctuaries and shrines went forth the missionary heroes who stemmed the tide of barbarism in the fairest lands of Europe, and brought to many peoples that were in the darkness of paganism the lessons and blessings of mercy and peace. Those sanctuaries now in ruin tell of the storm of persecution that swept over the land and laid waste the garden of God. They tell of a whole nation's martyrdom, and of a heroism of devoted piety that shall remain for ever a golden page in the history of Holy Church. And when we turn from those ivy-clad ruins to the stately cathedrals and other grand monuments of piety erected in our own day throughout the length and breadth of the land, do we not see a record of religious triumphs unparalleled perhaps in the annals of Christendom? Those glorious works of religion erected by the sons and daughters of Erin in this 19th century attest that the heroism of her martyrs has not been in vain, and that the fruitfulness of sanctity continues to crown the green hills of Ireland, and that the diadem of piety is still the priceless heritage of her children.

Thus, then, it is no exaggeration to say that the Cathedral, with its solidity of work, its architectural splendour, and its richness of ornament, and in all the sweetness and majesty of its beauty, must be regarded as a tribute of adoring love, an outpouring of gratitude and a manifestation of Catholic piety, giving glory to the Most High.

We should feel proud that this young country of ours, whilst emulating in other spheres of enlightenment all that is best and noblest in the old centres of civilisation, so in the making of religious architecture is privileged to renew the grand Christian glories of the ages of genuine piety and faith. What shall I say of the Cathedral of St. Patrick's in Melbourne, so complete in its array of beauty; of the grand cathedrals of Goulburn, Bathurst, and Armidale, in this ecclesiastical province; of Brisbane and Ballarat; of Perth and Hobart and Dunedin? A few days ago I returned from Rockhampton, where a fair portion of the new cathedral, a miniature of our own St. Mary's, was dedicated to God. In Sandhurst another grand building is being erected, whilst in Christchurch and Wellington (New Zealand) the foundations are being prepared for no less noble structures.

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