

Irish News

ANTRIM—Launch of a Big Vessel

Messrs. Harland and Wolff launched from their yard at Belfast on April 20 the steamer 'Amerika,' for the Hamburg-American line. The ceremony was witnessed by several thousand persons, including the Marquis of Londonderry, Sir Edward Carson, Solicitor-General for England, and Mr. Walter Long, Chief Secretary for Ireland. The 'Amerika,' which is the heaviest ship in the world, is intended for the Hamburg and New York service, calling at Dover and Cherbourg.

A Settlement

The differences which have divided the Nationalists of Belfast for so many years seem likely soon to disappear. The executives of the Catholic Association and the United Irish League of the city have taken steps to achieve this most desirable object.

A Sad Occurrence

Three sisters, named Ellen, Mary, and Margaret Allen, who resided at Kildrum, a short distance from Ballymena and Kells, were taken ill some time ago one after another, and died within a short time of each other (says the Belfast 'Irish Weekly' of April 22). It was certainly a sad sight to see the three lying dead in the one house together, and it was no less a touching one to witness their funeral, which took place at the same hour on the same day.

CORK—A Loss to Education

The death of Rev. Brother Shine, Superior-General of the Presentation Brothers, took place on Thursday, April 20, at Cork. Deceased was a man of rare ability, which he devoted ungrudgingly to the cause of education, with splendid results. The Most Rev. Dr. O'Callaghan, Bishop of the diocese, presided at the funeral obsequies.

A Liberal Subscription

The Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne, has given a liberal subscription towards the building of a new hall for the Queenstown Young Men's Society.

DONEGAL—The Late Member

The late Mr. William O'Doherty, M.P. for North Donegal, whose death was reported a few weeks ago, was one of the youngest members of the Nationalist party, and of the House of Commons. He was born in County Donegal in 1868, and was therefore only 37 years old at the time of his sudden death. He was educated at St. Columb's College, Londonderry, and, trained for the legal profession, was admitted to practice as a solicitor in 1893. A year later he became coroner for Innishowen, and married a daughter of Mr. William Mitchell, ship-owner. In 1896 Mr. O'Doherty entered municipal life as a member of the Londonderry Corporation, and at the last general election was returned to the House of Commons for North Donegal.

DOWN—The Bann Drainage

Sir Alexander Binnie, President-elect of the Institution of Civil Engineers and Chief Engineer to the London County Council, has been appointed by the Irish Government to make further investigation and report on the drainage of Lough Neagh and the River Bann. The Under-Secretary, in informing Mr. Thomas Sinclair, hon. secretary of the Bann Drainage Conference Committee, of the appointment, says the Lord Lieutenant desires to point out that the appointment of this eminent engineer at the Government's expense does not necessarily commit the Government to making a grant towards the execution of a drainage scheme.

DUBLIN—The Irish Martyrs

His Grace Archbishop Walsh of Dublin has received special congratulations from the Prefect of the Congregation of Rites on his report concerning the evidence collected regarding the lives of the Irish Martyrs. The documents submitted by the Archbishop are now being translated.

An Upright Judge

At his residence, Simmonscourt, Donnybrook, on April 21, County Court Judge Waters passed to his eternal reward at the age of seventy-eight. His death is regretted by everyone in Ireland who values probity and sterling worth. A devout Catholic and Home Ruler, he never wounded the susceptibilities of those who differed from him, and he meted out justice impartially to all classes, showing in his person how mistaken are those who act on the principle that Irishmen professing the ancient Faith and loving their native land are unfit for self-government. Deceased was one of the

oldest members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Ireland, and held the office of president of the Superior Council from 1889 to 1896. His eldest son, who had a large practice at the Bar, relinquished the profession, and entered the Jesuit Order, but died shortly after his ordination. Another son is Registrar in the Court of Admiralty, a position which he fills with much credit to himself. The funeral, which took place at Glasnevin, was attended by an immense gathering of the citizens.

A Palatial Mansion

Mr. Richard Croker's palatial mansion near Dublin will soon be ready for occupation. It will certainly be an ideal retreat. Commanding a magnificent view of Dublin Bay and the Hill of Howth, it is at the same time quite near to the famous Leopardstown racecourse, where Mr. Croker's horses will frequently be seen, and within easy distance of the city of Dublin itself.

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Some idea of the work done by the St. Vincent de Paul Society in Dublin (writes a correspondent) may be gathered from the fact that during last year the different conferences in the city visited and relieved, without religious distinction, 8096 families, consisting of 35,232 individuals. Their efforts at a time when sickness was so rife, work so scarce, and the weather so inclement, saved many a respectable family from the keenest distress, and possibly from the degradation of the workhouse. In addition to this good work, the Society has also established a Penny Savings Bank at Corn market, which is conducted and managed gratuitously by members. At the Society's Orphanage in Glasnevin 136 boys are educated, clothed, and fed. The Society also attends to the wants of poor working boys through means of night schools, at which members of the Society attend during the session and help to impart a sound religious and secular education, also endeavoring to procure them suitable employment on leaving school.

Increase of Temperance

That the drink traffic is declining (writes a correspondent) was very apparent in Dublin during the Easter holidays. The great majority of those on pleasure bent shunned the public-houses. Scarcely an intoxicated person was to be seen in the streets. Further evidence in the decline in the liquor traffic is to be found in the financial condition of many of the large manufacturing concerns. The Dublin City Distillery, for instance, is in the hands of a receiver. The Phoenix Brewery, once a thriving concern, has not been paying for years, and is now up for sale. Messrs. William Jameson and Co., George Roe and Co., and the Dublin Whiskey Distillery Co., three old-established and at one time very flourishing concerns, have paid no dividend to their shareholders, either ordinary or preference, for years past. These are facts which there can be no gainsaying. They show clearly that the wave of sobriety is increasing.

KERRY—A Practical Suggestion

At the suggestion of Rev. C. Brennan, Killarney, the Guardians of Kenmare Poor Law Union have decided that in future all their letters shall be addressed in Irish.

Demise of a Religious

Sister Mary Austin, of the Convent of Mercy, Tralee, died recently at Balloonagh Convent. Deceased, who was in her 71st year, had been in failing health for some time. She was a native of Dingle, and a sister of Mr. Thomas O'Donoghue, J.P., of that town.

The O'Donoghue Estate

The O'Donoghue of the Glens has sold his Kerry estate at 20 years' purchase of first term rents and 23 years' purchase of second, equivalent to a reduction of 7s and 5s in the £ respectively. There are other reductions in regard to arrears.

Clerical Appointment

The Most Rev. Dr. Mangan, Bishop of Kerry, has promoted the Rev. J. Brick, Adm., Fossa, to the pastoral charge of Kilmummin.

Death of Two School Teachers

Widespread regret was felt in Cahirciveen and neighborhood at the death, within a few days of each other, of two well known and highly esteemed retired National teachers—Mr. Michael Barry, late teacher of the Imelaghmore National School, and Mr. Jeremiah Finnegan, late of Coars National School.

KILDARE—A Priest Passes Away

The death took place about the middle of April of Very Rev. Archdeacon Germaine, P.P., V.F., Athy. Deceased, who had reached an advanced age, was a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Germaine, Moone, County Kildare. He had many relatives in the Church.