

GENERAL

White Gloves

At the summer quarter sessions at Carlow, Killarney, and Manorhamilton white gloves were presented to the County Court Judges.

A Denial

The Press Association is requested by Mr. J. Redmond, M.P., to state that he has received a letter from the Marquis MacSwiney at Rome characterising as 'absolutely false,' and as 'a fantastic invention,' the story widely circulated in newspaper paragraphs to the effect that the Marquis had been removed from his office as chamberlain to the Pope, in connection with Mr. Redmond's recent visit to his Holiness.

The Cromwellian Feeling

Mr. Balfour numbers among his colleagues five men who, in this twentieth century, preserve towards Ireland something of the old Cromwellian feeling. They are the Lord Chancellor of Ireland, Lord Ashbourne; the President of the Board of Education, the Marquis of Londonderry; the Secretary of State for War, Mr. Arnold Forster; the Solicitor-General, Sir Edward Carson; and the Attorney-General for Ireland, Mr. Atkinson. This group formed the lever with which Ulster dislodged George Wyndham and has since manoeuvred round the sturdy figure of Sir Antony MacDonnell.

Defeat of the Government

In Committee of Supply in the House of Commons on Friday, after Mr. Long, Chief Secretary for Ireland, had explained the scheme for expediting the work of the Irish Land Commission, Mr. Redmond moved the reduction of the expenses of the Commission. The amendment was carried by 199 to 196. The Nationalists were frantically delighted, and the Liberals cheered wildly. Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman asked the Government's intentions. Mr. Balfour replied that it was impossible to say at present. Mr. Redmond said it was unbelievable that the Government would swallow such humiliation after two years' incessant refusals by the electorates. Mr. Balfour replied that he was unconscious of humiliation. Unless he was able to conduct the business with dignity he certainly would not try. After consulting his colleagues he would make an announcement on Monday. The 'Times' says the incident is not necessarily decisive. Unquestionably it is serious, since it was not a snap vote, although the majority was almost certainly accidental.

A Distinguished Surgeon

One of the most prominent and distinguished members of the medical profession in the North of England passed away recently in the death of Dr. James Murphy, M.A., M.D., of Sunderland. He was the youngest son of the late Dr. Wm. Chapman Murphy, and was born at Ballinahow, County Tipperary, on July 27, 1855, and received his medical education as a student at Trinity College, Dublin, and at Paris. He was a nephew of Mr. Justice Murphy, Judge of the Supreme Court in Ireland. Dr. Murphy gained a great reputation as an operating surgeon. At the time of his death Dr. Murphy held many important appointments, chief amongst them being lecturer on Medical Jurisprudence at Durham University, and consulting surgeon to several public hospitals, and he was ex-Vice-President of the British Gynaecological Society. He wrote various articles on surgery and gynaecology.

Emigration Statistics

The emigration statistics for 1904, which have just been published, continue the story of the depletion of the Irish population. The number of emigrants was 37,415, or 8.5 per 1000 of the estimated population in the middle of the year. This, however, according to the figures, showed a decrease on the previous year. Unfortunately this decrease has not continued, for this year, up to the present, the emigration has been much larger than for many years past. Of the 36,902 natives of Ireland who left the country last year, 1517, or 3.9 per 1000 of the population, were from Leinster, 12,606, or 11.7 per 1000, were from Munster, 10,156, or 6.4 per 1000, were from Ulster; while 9623, or 14.7 per 1000, were from Connaught. The figures show, in comparison with the previous year, that the emigration from Connaught and Munster, respectively, marked a decrease of 1431 and 2098; while in the cases of the other two provinces, Leinster shows an emigration increase of 227, and Ulster an increase of 486. These figures are rather remarkable.

For Bronchial Coughs take
Woods' Great Peppermint Cure. Is 6d.

People We Hear About

The Earl of Dudley, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, is only 38. He went to Dublin Castle at 35 a practically untried man. The only office he had held was that of Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade. He carries a peculiar personal charm into all his work, and he has had a delightful helpmate in the Countess. Their marriage fourteen years ago was a romance, and the romance has happily been one of the lasting kind.

The news that his Majesty the King had conferred the Imperial Service Medal upon Mr. Denis Sullivan, J.P., late Inspector of Police (says the Adelaide 'Southern Cross'), was received with much gratification by a very large circle of friends and admirers. In conveying the intimation to the recipient, his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, in a gracious letter, expressed the hope that 'you will live long to wear with honor this well-merited mark of his Majesty's appreciation of your long career of useful service to the Crown and to the State of South Australia.'

The Dowager Countess of Clancarty, whose death took place in Galway County recently, was of an age with the late Dowager Duchess of Abercorn. Born in the same year, they were married in the same year, and they have now died within a few weeks of each other. After a married life of forty years, the late Countess of Clancarty became a widow in 1872. She saw two Countesses of Clancarty come to Galway, near Ballinasloe, the seat of the family, and both survive her. The present Dowager Countess, widow of the fourth Earl, is a daughter of the second Marquis of Bristol, while the reigning Countess was well known on the stage, and is still remembered as Miss Belle Bilton. Lady Clancarty of to-day has won popularity in the Earl's country around Ballinasloe by her kindness to the poor.

Sir Maurice O'Rorke, M.L.C., whose motion in the Legislative Council the other day in favor of returning to Provincialism was defeated by a large majority, does not seem to be so successful a legislator as Speaker of the House of Representatives. His fantastic proposal for the conferring of divinity degrees by the New Zealand University is also likely to come to nothing. 'Sir Maurice first saw the light at Moylough, County Galway, five and seventy years ago. His father was the local Protestant rector, and the future Speaker of the New Zealand House of Representatives was the third son. Sir Maurice graduated B.A. at Trinity College in 1852, and soon after struck out for Victoria, where he remained only for a couple of years, coming to New Zealand in 1854. He was appointed Clerk of the Auckland Provincial Council in 1857, and was elected as the representative of Onehunga to the General Assembly in 1861. He was always an ardent Provincialist, and was Speaker of Auckland Provincial Council for several years. It is over a quarter of a century since he was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, a position which he held, with the exception of the period from 1891 to 1893, until the last general election, when he was defeated at the polls.

The announcement made last week that the staff of official reporters, who accompanied the Land Commission in its wanderings in the back blocks of the Colony in search of information regarding the relative merits of freehold and leasehold tenure, had entertained the genial secretary of the Commission, Mr. R. A. Loughnan, at the Parliamentary Buildings, and presented him with a souvenir of regard, reminds us that the guest of the occasion has had more years of journalistic experience than he cares to remember. For many years he was editor of the 'Lyttelton Times,' when that paper was a power in the land, and when Canterbury held the key to the political situation in New Zealand. He vacated the editorial chair in favor of Mr. W. P. Reeves, son of one of the proprietors of the paper, and who is now High Commissioner for the Colony in London. For a time Mr. Loughnan edited the Wellington 'Catholic Times,' and soon after the purchase of the 'New Zealand Times' by the Liberal Party he was entrusted with the guidance of that journal through the troubled sea of party politics. For several years he succeeded in keeping his barque clear of the many dangers that threatened it from within and without, but eventually divided counsels in the control of the journal forced his retirement. After spending some time in Australia he returned to his beloved New Zealand, since when he has done literary work of a high order of merit for the Government. Mr. Loughnan is a man of varied attainments and wields a facile pen, all his work being distinguished for its polish and literary finish.