

Irish News

ANTRIM—The Union Denounced by an Orangeman

Mr. R. Lindsay Crawford, a prominent Orangeman, addressed a large meeting recently at Larne Town Hall on 'Irish Grievances and their remedy.' In the course of his address Mr. Crawford said that Irish Protestants could not for ever remain indifferent spectators of Ireland's Calvary, where a nation was being sacrificed to placate the insatiable lust of the high priests and elders of a spurious agitation. Ireland was moving with ever-increasing velocity along the broad road of destruction, and nothing but the combined Christian and moral effort of all her sons could avert the irretrievable ruin and disaster that lay immediately ahead. As intelligent men, whose interests centred in Ireland, they could not afford to treat with indifference the warnings of thinking men, who found that Ireland's troubles arose from two main causes—(1) the inability of English Parties to understand the complex Irish problem; and (2) a false conception of the National life amongst Irishmen of all creeds and classes. The Act of Union was carried with bribery and corruption unparalleled in the records of any other nation, and it was no exaggeration to say that by the same despicable methods had the Act of Union been maintained for more than a century. One of the causes of Ireland's decay and the failure of English statesmen to diagnose her disease and apply the remedy was the return to the British Parliament by the votes of Irish Protestants of Government placemen and title-hunters, who subordinated their country and her legitimate needs to their own selfish ends. He appealed to Protestants to do their duty to their country, and if they did so their Catholic fellow-countrymen would rise up and call them blessed. The only policy which the combined intelligence of the Ulster Party had evolved was coercion. Government by Coercion Acts in the 20th century was the most damning evidence of the failure of the Act of Union as administered by successive English Parties.

CORK—Death of a Priest

The death is announced of the Rev. William Hawe, who was drowned whilst bathing at Gobo Bay, Guernsey, on June 15. The remains were conveyed to his home at Charleville, County Cork, for interment. Father Hawe, who studied at Carlow College, was assistant priest at St. Patrick's, Woolston, then at Ryde, and lastly at St. Peter Port, Guernsey. He was much esteemed for his energy and zeal.

DERRY—Presentation

A pleasing function took place recently at Portrush, the occasion being the presentation to the Rev. Joseph MacKeefry, County Derry, of an address and testimonial from the people of Waterside, Derry, amongst whom he labored as a curate for some time prior to his elevation to the pastorate of Garvagh parish.

DOWN—Fatal Burning Accident

The upsetting of an oil lamp in the bedroom of a grocery store in Donaghadee, County Down, resulted in the death of the proprietor, Francis Aitken, aged 60, and the destruction of the premises.

Active at Ninety-five

Rev. James Crickard, of Loughlinisland, County Down, recently celebrated his 95th birthday, as well as seventieth year in the priesthood. The parish in which the aged priest is spiritual head is located pretty near the centre of the country, in a rural district a few miles from the little town of Ballynahinch, which figured so prominently in the memorable year of 1798. With one assistant, the good Father, notwithstanding his remarkable age, still continues to administer the affairs of the parish with great ability. Every Sunday he celebrates Mass, and every alternate Sunday preaches the sermon, which is always full of instruction and often eloquent, his voice reaching every member of the congregation. As regards age, he is now the spiritual father of the diocese to which he belongs, is very popular, and still full of quick wit and good humor. Father Crickard comes of a long-lived family, most of the members living over ninety years and some even passing the century mark. His mother lived to be 103.

DUBLIN—Catholic Truth Society

The report of the Catholic Truth Society of Ireland read at the annual meeting on June 16, was, on the whole, very satisfactory. But whilst good work has been done, and the financial condition of the society is sound, it was noted with regret that the sale of books was less than in the previous year. It is certain that

an increase will be ensured by the adoption of the suggestion, put forward in the report, and by Mr. Wolfe, of Clonmel, that in furtherance of the sales the clergy should enlist the aid of their parishioners. The interest taken in the work will also be extended should Mr. Wolfe's proposal for the publication of inexpensive books dealing with epochs in Irish history be carried out. The struggle for the preservation of the Faith occupies a large place in Irish historic records, and it is well that Catholics should animate their zeal by acquiring an accurate knowledge of what their forefathers suffered in the penal days. In these and subsequent times unerring sentiment powerfully tended to uphold the Faith; but, as the Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, Bishop of Ross, who always speaks with practical force, observed, when people are becoming more educated in all secular knowledge religious knowledge needs to be broadened and deepened.

The Rulers of Ireland

On June 15 the annual general meeting of the Maynooth Union took place at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, under the presidency of his Eminence Cardinal Logue. Dealing with present-day politics, his Eminence said that they now had a Lord Lieutenant of whom they must all speak in the highest terms—a man who was deeply interested in the affairs of the country, and who if he had a free hand would be sure to make his tenure of office memorable to the advantages which he would bring to Ireland. In the past they had a Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant, but now they had a Chief Secretary to the Orangemen of Ireland, and it was not the fault of the Orangemen if they had not an Under-Secretary of the same kind.

GILWAY—Opening of a New Church

On Sunday, June 18, the new church of St. Patrick at Glenamaddy was solemnly dedicated to its sacred purposes by the Most Rev. Dr. Healy Archbishop of Tuam. The sermon was preached by the Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Elphin. The need for the new building was long felt, the old cruciform structure, which served as parish church, being entirely inadequate and unsuitable for such an important district. A little more than a year ago the energetic and zealous parish priest, the Very Rev. Walter Conway, undertook the task of supplying a new church. The first stone was laid by the Archbishop of Tuam on St. Patrick's Day last year. Local materials were used in the construction, and all the masonry and carpentry work was carried out by local artisans. The building so far has cost £3000. Already the parishioners and their friends in Ireland and the world over have subscribed over £2000 of that. Some £200 was subscribed on the opening day, and the debt of £500 which still remains will be quickly paid off.

Critics Answered

In his sermon on the occasion of the solemn blessing of a new church at Glenamaddy, the Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, replying to some critics, said the people's hovels might be poor and their residences uncomfortable, but there was no Irishman and no Irishwoman who did not like to worship on Sunday in a beautiful church and before a beautiful altar, and, no matter how generous the contributions to the building of God's church, they felt they were amply compensated when they knelt before their altars on Sunday, and realised that they were the contributors to a great work for the honor and glory of God in Ireland.

LIMERICK—The County Council

The Limerick County Council at its annual meeting passed a Home Rule resolution, Lord Dunraven and Mr. Barrington dissenting. Lord Dunraven was a candidate for the chairmanship of the Council, but was defeated by Mr. Patrick Vaughan, farmer, a Nationalist, by sixteen votes to eight.

Royal Visitors

Prince Gustav and his wife, the Princess Margaret, reached Adare Manor on June 19, where they were to spend some days as the guests of Lord Dunraven. They will find in Adare (says the 'Freeman's Journal') a noble example of the departed greatness of the house of Fitzgerald. There are still extensive remains of the old Geraldine castle, and the three noble abbeys which sheltered under its walls. The churches of two of the abbeys have been restored as the Catholic and Protestant church respectively by a former Earl of Dunraven. If universal tradition is to be believed, Prince Gustav, in coming to the Valley of the Maigue, is coming to the very spot from which two hundred years ago set out for France Dominick Cleary, or Clary, the grandfather of Desire Clary, Queen of Sweden, and ancestress of Prince Gustav.

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