

doing wonderful work throughout the country. He felt ashamed when reading the local newspapers to see persons brought before the magistrates for being drunk and disorderly. There was nothing that brought more discredit upon the Catholic Church than to see people drunk and disorderly. For every glass of whisky taken they put threepence into the pocket of the English Chancellor of the Exchequer. They were patriotic Irishmen and the best way to prove their patriotism would be to abstain from drink and lighten the pocket of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

#### MEATH—Death of a Priest

On November 11 the Rev. Patrick J. Fagan, pastor of Kilbeg, Kells, passed away, to the great sorrow of his parishioners and friends throughout the diocese of Meath. The deceased was zealous in the cause of religion and education, and did much for the improvement of the people under his care.

#### MONAGHAN—A Centenarian

Francis M'Cabe, Annaghraw, Clones, has just died, having attained the age of 103 years. Deceased, who was a farmer, and died in the same house in which he was born over a century ago, had a clear recollection of O'Connell's agitation, and maintained his mental faculties until the last.

#### ROSCOMMON—Death of a Millionaire

The death is announced of Mr. Charles S. Devlin, a Kansas millionaire of enormous means. His wages bill ran to £20,000 weekly. He died suddenly after returning to the States from his native Roscommon.

#### SLIGO—Peaceful State of the County

County Court Judge Wakely, in addressing the Grand Jury at Sligo Quarter Sessions, said he had great pleasure in congratulating them on the peaceful state of the county. Considering that it was four months since the July Assizes, he thought it very creditable to the county.

#### WATERFORD—A Good Idea

At the Waterford County Council the other day a resolution was adopted in favor of purchasing all the rural court-houses in the county, with the object of using them as public libraries and lecture halls.

#### WEXFORD—A Presentation

Rev. Father Kavanagh, for many years spiritual director of the Women's Confraternity, Enniscorthy, has been presented by the members with a gig and harness. Also an illuminated address.

### GENERAL

#### An Anomaly

An instance of the anomalies of the Irish railway system was given at the last meeting of the Cattle Traders' Association, when it was pointed out that a farmer was charged 3s 11d for the carriage of a lamb from Enfield to Carbury, a distance of six miles, whereas the first-class passenger fare was only 1s 4d.

#### The Flour-milling Trade

At the fourth annual meeting of the Flour Millers' Association of Ireland, held recently in Dublin, the president, Mr. Perry Goodbody, stated that flour-milling in Ireland at the present time was in a good condition, and was on the way to become still more flourishing. They had beaten the Americans out of the market, but they were confronted with unfair competition from across the Channel.

#### Horse Breeding

About a year ago one of the Agricultural Department's 'experts' proved more or less to his own satisfaction, that the race of Irish hunters is slowly dying out, owing to the steady disappearance of the Irish half-bred draught horse. So, in order to meet the pressing demands of the small farmers, in 1900 the Department admitted Clydesdale and Shire stallions to their horse breeding scheme. These breeds, however, were almost universally objected to, and the large farmers would not have them at any price, declaring that their introduction would mean the ruin of the Irish hunter. The Clydesdales and Shires, therefore, were dropped. It is worth observing that when the raising of Irish hunters was most successful there was no Agricultural Department; and, indeed, the 'expert,' in his article, expresses his amazement at the success with which, without any regular method, hunters had hitherto been reared in Ireland. But they are being reared as successfully to this day, as the Italian buyers who visit the Horse Show in increasing numbers every year can testify.

## People We Hear About

Mr. Timothy Francis Quinlan, the new Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of West Australia, was born in County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1861, and was still in his infancy when his parents left for Western Australia. At the age of 29 he was returned by the electors of West Perth as their representative. He now represents Toodyay, for which he was returned in 1897.

Sir Henry Irving was once chatting with some brother actors about stage animals, and a certain pony was referred to as having proved an excellent actor when engaged in a well known play. 'Why,' said a famous player, as if to prove the fact, 'he used to go on the stage and yawn all the time I was busy at the footlights.' 'H'm,' said Sir Henry, slyly; 'I don't know about his being a good actor, but I should say he was a good critic.'

A correspondent of the 'Daily Chronicle' writes:—'The other morning I went to "see off" a friend who was going north by the train leaving King's Cross at ten o'clock. As we pushed our way searching in vain for a vacant seat, we saw two uniformed Salvationists putting into a specially reserved first-class carriage baggage that boldly proclaimed itself the property of "General Booth." My friend, after turning a rather envious glance at the spare seats in the carriage by now occupied by the Citizen General and one attendant, changed his ticket for a third-class one, and got a thoroughly comfortable compartment all to himself.' 'It was a pleasure,' adds the correspondent, 'in these days of the simple life, to see among the third-class passengers an iron magnate of the North country; also a Catholic Bishop.'

Lord Brampton, better known as Mr. Justice Hawkins, was appointed a judge in November, 1876, and resigned the post in January, 1899. He was created a peer under the title of Baron Brampton immediately after his retirement. Lord Brampton became a Catholic when he was about 80. Asked soon after as to the reasons which led him to become a Catholic, he replied as follows:—'It is not very easy to write a definite reply to the question—Why I became a Catholic? I will not, therefore, make the attempt. To reason the matter out would require much more time than I have at my command, and I would not undertake the task unless I felt that I could accomplish it thoroughly and with satisfaction to myself. To undertake a work and fail to perform it would distress me. Those, therefore, who look for my reasons for taking the important step I took so late in life cannot have their expectations satisfied by me. It must suffice them to know that it was the result of my deliberate conviction that the truth—which was all I sought—lay within the Catholic Church. I thought the matter out for myself, anxiously and seriously, uninfluenced by any human being, and I have unwavering satisfaction in the conclusion at which I arrived, and my conscience tells me it is right.'

A few weeks ago Mr. Justin McCarthy launched the last volume of his 'History of Our Own Times,' on which he has been engaged for more than a quarter of a century. It was in the 'Daily News' office that the plan originated. To Sir John Robinson, then manager of the 'Daily News,' a leading firm of publishers mentioned their intention of publishing a history of the reign of Queen Victoria, and Sir John suggested Mr. Justin McCarthy, a member of the staff, as the man for the work. It was entrusted to him, and he was busy on the earlier chapters when an event which altered the course of his life occurred. Mr. McCarthy was invited to stand as Nationalist candidate for Longford County, for which he was returned unopposed. That was in 1879. With that kind of wisdom which has ruined many enterprises, Mr. McCarthy's publishers believed that their author's political support of Parnell in the Commons would be fatal to the fortunes of the projected history. So they proposed the cancellation of the agreement, offering Mr. McCarthy compensation. An arbitration committee, presided over by Sir John Robinson, satisfactorily settled the terms. Afterwards Mr. McCarthy showed the opening chapters of the work to Mr. Andrew Chatto, of the firm of Chatto and Windus, and he agreed to publish it under the title of 'a History of Our Own Times.'

About 700 new J.P.'s have just been added to the list in New South Wales.