

MAYO—An Appointment

Mr. Malachy F. Kelly, Crown Solicitor for County Mayo, has been appointed Chief Crown Solicitor for Ireland, in succession to Sir Patrick Coll, who has retired on a pension.

MEATH—Resignation of the Bishop

The resignation of the Most Rev. Dr. Gaffney, Bishop of Meath, has been officially accepted by the Holy See. Dr. Gaffney was obliged to resign owing to partial blindness.

TIPPERARY—Death of a Canon

The death occurred early in December of the Very Rev. James Canon Cantwell, Ballingarry, County Tipperary, after a protracted illness. The deceased, who was aged 65, was appointed curate in Thurles in 1875, and in 1878 succeeded Dean Kinane in the Administration. In 1885 he was transferred to the pastoral charge of Ballingarry, in succession to the late Rev. Dr. John Ryan. Canon Cantwell was a powerful factor in the stirring episodes of the Land League days in Tipperary. He was president at the meeting in the Rotunda, Dublin, in 1881 at which the No Rent Manifesto was issued. So much indeed, did he concern himself in the uplifting of his country that he was marked out by the Government for arrest as a suspect. When the rumor spread throughout the town of Thurles that his arrest was to be made on a certain date, the people of the town gathered in large force in anticipation of the arrest and watched throughout the night to resist any attempt of this kind. No arrest was effected. For weeks afterwards a watch was kept on the movements of the police, and even by night a bugler named Egan kept sentry outside the presbytery. During his connection with the cathedral town Canon Cantwell was loved and revered by the people.

TYRONE—Law and Boycotting

When the rights of Irish landlords have been in question a wink or 'a humbugging sort of smile' have been construed as boycotting, but in the same Green Isle it has just been decided by three judges of the Court of Appeal, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Justice Fitzgibbon, and Lord Justice Holmes, Lord Justice Walker dissenting, that there is practically no such thing as boycotting when a Catholic is deprived of the means of living simply for being a Catholic. The case need but be stated in the barest outline to enable the reader to see the meanness and injustice which formed its salient features. Miss Rose F. Sweeney was engaged by the Rev. W. H. Bailey, Presbyterian minister, as manual instructress in the Carnteel school, County Tyrone. The appointment was sanctioned by the National Board. The school is a mixed one, but most of the children are Presbyterians, and though Miss Sweeney had nothing to do with the teaching of religion, a movement for her dismissal was set on foot. Mr. Coote, a magistrate, took a leading part in it. The minister, acting as a man and a Christian, refused to dismiss the girl. Some twenty children were accordingly withdrawn from the school. Miss Sweeney took an action against Mr. Coote for conspiring with others to injure her. Judge Barton gave a decision in her favor, but it has now been reversed by the Irish Court of Appeal. The case will be taken by the plaintiff to the House of Lords.

WATERFORD—The Bonmahon Mines

The 'Financial News' states that the capital offered for subscription, in connection with the working of the Bonmahon mines, has been fully subscribed, and adds: 'It is refreshing to find that a plain unvarnished proposition has met with acceptance at the hands of the public. It looks now as if the development of the mineral resources of Ireland had at long last come within the region of practical politics.'

GENERAL**Reduced Drink Bill**

Writing to the press with reference to Mr. Talbot Power's speech at the annual meeting of the Licensed Grocers' and Vintners' Association, Mr. Wilkinson, secretary of the Irish Temperance League, says: 'If the multiplication of the facilities for obtaining intoxicating drinks does not produce drunkenness, it is curious that the arrests for drunkenness last year were 9501 less than in 1902, and that the licenses issued for the sale of intoxicating drinks last year were 1113 fewer than those issued in 1902, and also that the drink bill of Ireland for last year was £494,716 less than in the previous year.'

People We Hear About

Mr. John Burns has the distinction of being the first Labor leader elevated from the position of a private member to Cabinet rank.

President Roosevelt will, it is understood, pay a series of European visits, including one to the King in London, on the conclusion of his term of office.

Sir Rowland Blennerhassett, Bart., who has been appointed a member of the Irish Privy Council, preceded Dr. Windle as President of the Queen's College, Cork. He is a forcible writer. Sir Rowland is a Catholic.

There is no more curious office under the Constitution than that of Irish Secretary, to which Mr. James Bryce has been appointed. Though styled 'Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant,' the Irish Secretary, as often as not, exercises his great powers entirely on his own responsibility. He is almost invariably a Cabinet Minister, while the Lord Lieutenant is almost invariably without a seat in the Cabinet. The Lord Lieutenant, however, acting Ministerially, appoints as Irish Viceroy by his warrant the Chief Secretary, and accordingly the appointment of Chief Secretary is generally the last of all the Cabinet offices to be announced.

Admiral Lord Charles Beresford is fond of telling the following story connected with his stay at a country inn near Oxford some years ago. His Lordship arrived overnight quite alone, and told his host who he was. In giving a young waiter instructions how to act towards such a distinguished visitor, the hotel proprietor said:—'Look here, we have got a lord here—a real live lord. We never had one here before, and I don't suppose we ever will again. When you take his lordship's shaving water up in the morning knock three times, and if a voice says, "Who is it?" mind you say, "It's the boy, my lord." The unfortunate youth was so much fluttered, however, next morning, that, shivering outside the door with his hot water, when Lord Charles cried, 'Who is it?' he blurted out:—'It's the lord, me boy.'

The great American millionaires are evidently determined that their sons shall not degenerate into idlers and prodigals of the type too often seen in Europe. Mr. Pierpont Morgan, jun., the son of the great trust magnate, entered his father's office in a minor position, and, having served an apprenticeship to the work of the banking-house, was made a junior partner in the London office. The youngest son of Mr. James J. Hill, the railway millionaire, was till recently earning about 24s a week as a clerk in a railway office. The son of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, reputed to be the richest man in the world, has worked not only as a clerk, but as a labourer. Many other instances might be given of the sons of millionaires being placed by their fathers in humble occupations, that they might rise through their own merits to higher positions, and thus be well equipped for taking over the vast responsibilities entailed by immense wealth.

The Very Rev. Canon Sheehan, the popular Irish author, was born in Mallow, County Cork, on St. Patrick's Day, 1852, so that he is now 54 years of age. In his early years he had as schoolmate at the national school, of his native place, Mr. William O'Brien, M.P. Just 40 years ago he commenced his classical course at St. Colman's College, Fermoy. Later on he went to Maynooth, but during his career, at this college, from 1869 to 1874, he was in very delicate health. All his family died of consumption, except a younger brother, who stands high in the Civil Service under the Local Government Board of Ireland, and who shares in Canon Sheehan's literary tastes. His health not improving, he was compelled to remain at home from 1872 to 1878. Canon Sheehan received the Order of the priesthood at the earliest canonical age. His first curacy was in England, under the Bishop of Plymouth. He was attached to the Cathedral staff for three months, after which he was two years in Exeter. It was in 1895 that Canon Sheehan was appointed parish priest of Doneraile. His first book published was 'Geoffrey Austin'; then followed 'The Triumph of Failure,' which is the author's favorite of all his works. Amongst his other works are 'My New Curate,' 'Under the Cedars and the Stars,' a volume of literary and philosophical reflections; a drama of life entitled 'Lost Angel of a Ruined Paradise,' written specially for the benefit of the Children's Hospital, Dublin; 'Marie Corona'; 'Luke Delmege,' which is widely known, and now his latest, 'Glenanaar.'