

was the mother of the Rev. Father Bernard, C.P., Mount Argus, Dublin, and Rev. J. Mangan, and Rev. D. Mangan, both of the American mission.

GENERAL

Transfer of Franciscans

Rev. Father O'Neill, Superior, the Franciscan Friary, Multyfarnham, has been transferred to Cork, and Father Chrisostom to Killarney. Father Stanislaus has been appointed Guardian of Multyfarnham. Rev. P. F. Kavanagh, author of the 'History of Ninety-Eight,' has been transferred from Carrick-on-Suir to Wexford, his native town.

Getting at the Root of the Evil

The Commission appointed to deal with the question of Irish poor law reform advises the abolition of the present workhouse system, since, in its judgment, poverty can only be relieved by the development of the resources of Ireland.

The Under-Secretary's Appointment

In the House of Commons last week Mr. Bryce (Secretary for Ireland), in reply to Mr. T. H. Sloan, said that there was no record except of a purely formal nature connected with Sir Antony MacDonnell's appointment as Under-Secretary for Ireland. The Government had no connection or control in relation to any correspondence between its predecessors and Sir Antony MacDonnell. Mr. Bryce added that Sir Antony had asked him to say that he had no personal objection to the publication of the correspondence mentioned, and that he saw no reason why he should initiate the publication. Sir Antony thought, however, that if his own letters were published all the others relative to the matter should likewise be published.

Intermediate Education

The exhibition and prize lists, which have been issued by the Intermediate Education Board (writes a Dublin correspondent), shows that our Catholic colleges have not only maintained their high standard of previous years, but in some cases, such, for instance, as that of Blackrock College, County Dublin, considerably improved on the brilliant past. Nearly 11,000 pupils presented themselves for examination at the various centres, a fact which proves the earnest desire of the Irish youth for learning. The O'Connell Schools, North Richmond street, Dublin, conducted by the Christian Brothers, again holds the first place in all Ireland with a grand total of twenty-one exhibitions and many minor prizes. The Christian Schools, Cork, an excellent institution which is fast coming to the front, secured sixteen exhibitions, the Christian Schools, Synge street, Dublin, nine, and the Christian Schools, Youghal, five. Four exhibitions went to the Christian Schools, Westland Row, the Christian Schools, Mount Sion, Waterford, and the Christian Schools, Limerick, respectively. Many other schools, conducted by this excellent Order throughout the country, won exhibitions and prizes notwithstanding the keen competition. Religion in the schools proved no bar to education in their cases, but the contrary. Clongowes Wood College, County Kildare, conducted by the Jesuit Fathers, and Blackrock College, County Dublin, conducted by the Fathers of the Holy Ghost, come next to the great O'Connell Schools, which are for day pupils alone, with a grand total of eighteen exhibitions each. They occupy the premier places among the colleges of the country; Catholic and non-Catholic included. Clongowes Wood College, S.J., has far surpassed the brilliant record which placed it foremost amongst all the colleges of Ireland in 1905. This year it has with the 18 exhibitions 35 prizes. The advance is most marked in those departments which especially test skill in teaching. Clongowes won seven first places, five medals, and 17 composition prizes. Last year Master Aubry Gwynn won the medal for Latin in the Junior Grade and second place in the aggregate; this year he wins second place in the Middle Grade and the medal for Latin with marks above the maximum. He also won three special prizes in Latin and Greek. In the Senior Grade alone Clongowes obtained six exhibitions, three medals for first places, and twelve prizes. The successes of boys educated in Blackrock at the higher civil service examinations is well known. Recently they took second place in the United Kingdom for Police Superintendents in India and for the Exchequer and Audit Departments. The Inspectorate of National Schools is mostly filled by Blackrock College boys. Rockwell College, Cashel, again holds a high place among the colleges with nine exhibitions and 13 prizes. The Presentation College, Cork, did very well, and so too did many of the diocesan seminaries, such as St. Macarten's, Monaghan, St. Colman's, Fermoy, St. Jarlath's, Tuam, and St. Brendan's, Killarney.

People We Hear About

The latest sensation in Paris is a lace shop in the Rue St. Roche, which has been organised and is being directed by a Queen. The ex-Queen Dowager Marie of Sicily has started the shop in Paris, where nothing but Calabrian lace is being sold.

For many years Mr. W. Redmond was the 'baby' of the House. He was only twenty-two years of age when he was returned for Wexford in 1883. The youthfulness of some members of the present Parliament recalls the fact that a Frenchman cannot be a Deputy until he is twenty-five years of age, while no Italian can legislate for his country before the age of thirty.

The Earl of Denbigh, who is the colonel commanding the Honourable Artillery Company of London, is one of the very few Englishmen who have been decorated with the Grand Cross of the Spanish Order of Charles III, which stands next in distinction to the celebrated Order of the Golden Fleece. Another Service man who also wears the decoration is Admiral Lord Walter Kerr, of the Royal Navy.

A Flemish priest of the village of Austruweep has found in the garret of the local church a dusty painted canvas representing the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin, and several reputed critics of Antwerp and Brussels have categorically attributed the painting to Rubens. The picture will be submitted to the investigation of the most prominent picture experts of Europe. It is a very fine piece of work, and is fortunately well preserved.

Ugbrooke Park, in Devonshire, the seat of Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, is described by M.A.P. as one of the loveliest places in Devonshire. A towered and battlemented mansion, it lies, in a park-like demesne, seven miles in circumference, nestling amid wooded heights. Lady Clifford, who is an excellent actress and very fond of theatricals, has had a delightful little theatre built in the house, in which various pieces have been produced. The mansion also possesses, by way of contrast, a very handsome chapel, of noble classic design, and adorned with work of art illustrative of Christ's Passion. A precious relic in the chapel is the head of an ancestor of the Cliffords, which was impaled on Temple Bar.

King Edward can speak German and French as fluently as English, and has a fair knowledge of one or two other languages; but as a linguist he is quite eclipsed by the Emperor of Austria. It is told of him that at one of the great military reviews he addressed five different regiments—German, Italian, Hungarian, Bohemian, and Wallachian—each in its own tongue; and Hungary will never forget how, fifty-five years ago, the youthful Archduke Francis Joseph, when installing a certain Governor, electrified his audience by addressing it in purest Magyar; a tongue no other Archduke had ever taken the trouble to learn. They sprang from their seats, waved their swords in a frenzy of enthusiasm, and almost lifted the roof with thunderous shouts of 'Eljen.'

Once more Sir Antony MacDonnell has become the storm-centre of Irish politics (says 'M.A.P.') owing to the wordy warfare waged between him and Mr. Walter Long. Sir Antony is certainly a curious man to have been appointed Permanent Under Secretary at Dublin Castle, and to have been kept there by successive Tory Chief Secretaries, for he is known to be both a Roman Catholic and a Home Ruler. The son of a small landlord in County Mayo, he was educated at the old Queen's College, Galway, and, having entered the India Civil Service by open competition, he fought his way to the very highest posts by sheer merit. It is curious to look on him and reflect that this official once ruled for six years over all the teeming millions of the North-West Provinces and Oudh, with a sway more really despotic than that of all the viziers of the Great Mogul. It is significant, too, that land questions interested him most throughout his Indian career, for it is an open secret that he is the real author of Mr. Wyndham's Irish Land Act. His Indian proteges, the talukhdars (landowners) of Oudh, in their gratitude set up a statue of him at Lucknow; perhaps he may yet live to see his memory similarly perpetuated by grateful Irish tenant-farmers.

Formerly the Speaker of the House of Commons retired on a pension of £2000 per annum for two lives. A Speaker, however, who was childless wished that the pension should be £4000 per annum for one life—his own—and it has since remained at that sum.