

known and widely-respected family, which gave also to the Church his brother, Very Rev. Canon Furlong, P.P., Taghmon, another highly-esteemed priest of the diocese of Ferns. During his long career in the sacred ministry, Archdeacon Furlong left nothing undone to promote the spiritual and temporal interests of the people consigned to his care.

WICKLOW—A Presentation

The Very Rev. Laurence O'Byrne, P.P., was presented with an address and testimonial by a deputation from the County Council of the Wicklow Gaelic League during the Christmas week.

GENERAL

The Tide of Emigration

Notwithstanding the depopulated state of the country, the flow of emigration shows no sign of decreasing. 50,202 Irish emigrants left last year, as compared with 50,150 the preceeding year.

Railway Rates

Mr. William Field, M.P., made an important statement at the last meeting of the Cattle Traders' and Stock Owners' Association, showing how the Irish meat trade is hampered, and the foreign trade with Great Britain as a consequence encouraged by the prohibitive rates on Irish railways. 'Cattle can be delivered in England and Scotland in a safer condition and with less damage from America than across the Channel.' Of course, the Irish carrying companies will suffer in the end; but they have been 'killing the goose that lays the golden eggs' for half a century, and it is, apparently, too late to hope for any real reform other than the abolition in favour of public control of the railways.

Competitive Designs

The competition instituted by the Local Government Board for Ireland for three prizes for designs of laborers' cottages most suitable for rural districts has resulted as follows:—1st prize (£50), Sydney Moss, Rockbank, Eccles, Lancashire; 2nd prize (£30), J. Roseman Burns, 17 Serpentine avenue, Ballsbridge, Dublin; 3rd prize (£20), T. M. Deane, 15 Ely place, Dublin.

Spread of Temperance

Encouraging in every respect is the annual report of the Irish Temperance League, presented at a meeting of that body held in Belfast. It says the year 1906 opened with great promises, which have been more than fulfilled. Since the days of Father Mathew there has been nothing approaching the wave of temperance sentiment which is now spreading over the country. 'The most encouraging feature is, that it promises to lead to results in the near future that will not only reform drinking habits, but bear such economic fruit that it will appeal to all. For this welcome change, credit is given to the Anti-Treating League, the Gaelic League, the crusade conducted by the Capuchin Fathers, and other movements. The pledge administered by bishops to children when receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is not referred to, but it has worked wonders since the hierarchy adopted this excellent plan.

Laborers' Cottages

In the course of a letter to the 'Freeman's Journal,' advocating the erection of laborers' cottages in Connaught, the Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Elphin, says:—The first of the Irish Laborers' Acts was passed in the year 1883, and since then at least six further Acts dealing with the same problem have been placed on the Statute Book. Each year a sum of over £40,000 has been forthcoming from the British Treasury to aid us in providing suitable residences for agricultural laborers in Ireland. According to a Parliamentary return, supplied by the Local Government Board, on the requisition of Mr. Flavin, M.P. for West Kerry, on the 13th March, 1906, bringing the statistics down to the 31st of the same month, it appears that of 20,634 laborers' cottages erected in Ireland during these twenty-three years, 10,617 were erected in Munster, 8018 in Leinster, and 1663 in Ulster; while in Connaught, where they were most needed, only 336 cottages for laborers have been erected during that period. I find that, in several individual unions, outside Connaught, more energy has been manifested in availing of the Laborers' Acts than in all the unions of the western province put together. For example, the single rural district of Kilmallock, in the County Limerick, has been provided with as many as 722 laborers' cottages; and in each of the seven other unions over 400 cottages have been erected, that is, 60 in excess of the total number erected in the whole of Connaught.

People We Hear About

On April 27 Archbishop Williams, of Boston, the oldest American prelate, will celebrate his eighty-fifth birthday. He was born at Boston in 1822. Archbishop Ryan was seventy-six on February 20; Cardinal Gibbons seventy-three on July 13. All the other Archbishops are under seventy. The youngest is Archbishop Glennon, of St. Louis, who will be forty-five next June. Bishop McQuaid, of Rochester, was eighty-three on December 15. Bishop McCloskey, of Louisville, was eighty-three on November 10.

The English Liberal journals welcome the appointment of Mr. Reginald McKenna, a nephew of the late Sir Joseph N. McKenna, for many years member for Youghal, to the post Mr. Birrell is vacating at the Education Office. Mr. McKenna has been in Parliament twelve years as member for Monmouthshire North, and at the time of his first election was a barrister. He proved himself one of the finest fighters on the Liberal benches in the last Government, and he came to the fore in a contest with the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the question of unstripped tobacco.

The Right Hon. J. P. Nannetti, M.P., has been re-elected Lord Mayor of Dublin. Mr. Nannetti, who is member of Parliament for one of the divisions of the Irish Metropolis, and chief compositor of the 'Freeman's Journal,' was born in 1851, and is the son of an Italian sculptor and modeller. He was educated at the schools of the Christian Brothers, Dublin. He was apprenticed to the printing trade, and was afterwards employed in Liverpool, where he was one of the founders of the Home Rule organisation. Later he became secretary and afterward president of the Trade Council of Dublin, a member of the Corporation of Dublin and of the Port and Docks Board.

The Queen of Norway speaks five languages fluently, including Russian. Her favorite poet is 'Owen Meredith,' the late Lord Lytton. Then she knows many minor arts and crafts, sews and spins well, can bind a book, take a photograph, knit stockings, carve wood, play chess, and use a typewriter—which is said to be among her favorite amusements. Like most members of the Royal Family, Queen Maud is a keen collector, and her up-to-date fancy seems to be for ivory tusks, of which she has a fine assortment. At wood-carving she is specially clever, and some of her friends possess pipes with grotesque heads, which have been carved for them by her.

A delightful story is related of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts in reference to her philanthropic work in the promotion of the Baltimore fishing industry. A fisherman, hearing of her kindness of heart, nursed the ambition of having a boat of his own, and dictated a letter in his own quaint language, the burden of it being that he and his family had their slumbers disturbed at night by the frolics of the fish in front of his doorstep, he having neither boat nor gear to capture them. Lady Burdett-Coutts entered very fully into the humor of the letter, made inquiries into the case of the original and ingenious applicant for favor, and on being assured that he was deserving gave him his heart's desire.

Mrs. Mary Anderson de Navarro, the famous actress, now retired from the stage, was born at Sacramento, California, in 1859. Her mother was of German descent direct and her father was English. She was educated at the Ursuline Convent and the Presentation Academy, Louisville, Kentucky, U.S.A. She herself has laughingly described herself as rather idle at school and unsuccessful. She began her stage life at 16, and was most successful from the first. At twenty-eight (in the heyday of her beauty, she left the stage, refusing the most flattering invitations to return. She married Mr. Antonio de Navarro, and they have had a son and a daughter. It was early in the year 1889 she retired. In 1896 she published 'A Few Memories.' She lives in Worcestershire, and her chief recreations are music, reading aloud, and singing. While she was on the stage she performed what had been looked upon as an impossible feat, namely, that of playing Shakespeare's 'Winter's Tale' at the old Lyceum for a hundred and sixty-four nights, doubling the parts of Hermione and Perdita.

Messrs. Brown, Ewing, and Co., Dunedin, are now showing an immense variety of all the newest and most stylish goods, suitable for the Autumn season. These are the best that can be bought for money, nevertheless the prices are very moderate...