

Irish News

ARMAGH—Over the Century

Claiming to be the oldest living subject of his Majesty, James Loughran, of Derrynoose, Middletown, County Armagh, has been obliged to seek medical assistance for the first time in his 117 years. He is a non-drinker and a non-smoker, and attributes his longevity to the simple life, preferring porridge, potatoes and milk to tea, coffee, and other luxuries.

CORK—A Venerable Religious

At Our Lady's Mount, Cork, on February 16, the Rev. Brother Leahy passed away at the age of 74. Deceased was a member of a much-respected Cork family, and received his early education in the North Monastery, where he died. There also, he was received into the Christian Brothers' Community at the age of sixteen. He taught in the schools of his Order at Limerick, Drogheda, Waterford, and Dublin, but the principal scene of his work was in his native city, where his successful labor will long be remembered. Seven years ago he celebrated his golden jubilee, when he was the recipient of many tokens of the esteem in which he was held.

DOWN—Golden Jubilee

The Rev. Mother Teresa, of the Convent of Mercy, Newry, has attained the golden jubilee of her religious profession as a member of the Order of Mercy.

DUBLIN—A Prosperous Company

A dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. was declared at the annual general meeting of the 'Freeman's Journal' Co. in Dublin. Mr Brayden, the editor of the paper, was elected a director. Mr. Sexton, who presided, said that as Mr. Brayden had been on the staff 25 years, and had edited the 'Freeman's Journal' for 15, his election was a fitting recognition of his services.

Anti-treating League

As a result of the recent mission in St. Francis Xavier's Church, Upper Gardiner street, Dublin, there has been a large accession to membership of the Anti-Treating League, now admitted to be one of the most powerful agencies for the promotion of temperance.

The University Scheme

At a meeting of the Blackrock College Union, the scheme of University reform outlined by Mr. Bryce was considered, and a resolution declaring that it seemed to afford a satisfactory means of removing the grievances of Irish Catholics in the matter of higher education, was adopted. Mr. W. McGrath, who proposed the resolution, said the Catholics of Ireland were at last emerging from the blackness of that night of oppression which had so long overwhelmed them, into the daylight of equality and freedom. Through centuries the claim of Catholics had been one for equality with those who differed from them in faith. Though the solution proposed by Mr. Bryce might not be an absolutely ideal one, they ought to recognise it as an honest and whole-hearted attempt to meet the undeniable claims of the Catholics of Ireland. Mr. Drumgoole, B.L., Dr. McLaughlin, F.R.U.I., Mr. James McMahon, Mr. R. J. Kelly, B.L., and other members spoke in favor of the resolution, and the Very Rev. Dr. Crehan, C.S.S.R., associated himself with all that the various speakers had said.

GALWAY—The Clanricarde Estate

In the debate in the House of Commons on the amendment to the address on the Evicted Tenants' question the Chief Secretary said that when all the information available was to hand he would take the necessary steps to restore the evicted tenants to their old homes, or provide new homes for them. Continuing, he said some reference had been made to the shocking case of Lord Clanricarde. He was reading an erudite journal of the Society of Comparative Legislation, which recorded for lawyers many enactments in different parts of the Empire of which they were all enormously and justly proud. There he found that the Bombay Court of Wards had power to provide for the estates of persons who, by reason of age and signs of physical or mental infirmity, were unable to manage their own estates without injury to them or to the well-being of their inferior holders. By the terms of the Act of Parliament giving that power these persons were disqualified to manage their pro-

perty. He should himself feel no aversion and no disinclination to make himself responsible to the House for the passage through the House of the measure which should treat Lord Clanricarde after the fashion of Bombay. He would not propose to expropriate him, but would simply take from him the management of estates which, in his judgment, he was wholly unsuited to manage and improve upon in accordance with the best interests of landlord and tenants and of Ireland itself. Delays and difficulties might arise in securing the rapid passage of such a measure through Parliament. This estate was haunted by the ghosts of murdered men. It was enough to know that such an estate so managed was a danger and a disgrace to the community, and it was the duty of the community to see that that state of affairs was brought to an end.

KERRY—The Cathedral Debt

The Most Rev. Dr. Mangan, Bishop of Kerry, presided on February 17 at a public meeting held in Killarney for the purpose of organising a bazaar in relief of the debt of the Cathedral and for the completion of the splendid but unfinished structure, which is visited by people from all parts of the world who go to the Killarney Lakes. The debt amounts to £2500.

The French Persecution

No part of Ireland (writes a Dublin correspondent) is more closely connected with France, by religious and historical ties, than the Kingdom of Kerry. Many of the most eminent Churchmen of the ancient diocese of Ardara and Aghadoe, including the late Most Rev. Dr. Moriarty, received their ecclesiastical education in France, to whose military service Kerry gave several of her sons. Under the circumstances, the resolution passed by the Kerry County Council was most appropriate. It ran as follows:—'That we unite with the general cry of condemnation and disgust that prevails over the civilised world caused by the war of persecution waged by the Government of France against the Catholic Church of that ancient Catholic country. That, as on the occasion of the Franco-German war, when the capital of France was invested by the German army, Lord Lyons raised on request the British flag on the Irish College, Paris, and so saved it from probable demolition by the German artillery, we request that should occasion arise, the British Government will again interpose its protecting influence to save from confiscation or plunder an institution that has furnished this country with an army of distinguished prelates and priests.'

KILKENNY—A Serious Fire

As a result of a fire which broke out in Kilkenny, the premises of Messrs. T. Power and Sons, hardware merchant, were partially destroyed, and damage to the extent of £4000 done.

LIMERICK—Preparing for Home Rule

The Bishop of Limerick, in his Lenten pastoral, says a great change is passing over the country. We may be, and very probably are, at this moment at the parting of the ways, and on the fidelity and steadiness of this generation may depend the future of religion in Ireland. There has been a great social upheaval, which will result in transferring to the ownership of the people the whole of the land of Ireland. This great change must have a profound effect on the religious and moral life of the people. Then there was the awakening to the importance in modern life of a higher education of the people. There was a hope, too, that we are at last on the eve of a great political change, which would give the Irish people the power to make their own laws and manage their own affairs. He believed that until that change was effected no true prosperity was possible. Until the centre of gravity was placed within its own borders the country would never be at rest. If this great measure of reform should be granted it it would stir the nation to its very depths, and coming, it it does, on top of social changes which are in progress of development, there could be no doubt that the years immediately before us would try the judgment, the good sense, the religion of the people, and for good or evil determine their future for generations. It was our duty to prepare for these days of larger opportunities and brighter hopes and weightier responsibilities by strengthening and deepening the religious sense, and cultivating the natural and supernatural virtues, which are the real strength of our race. We must see that no political or other change is made at the sacrifice of any religious interest. In particular was this true of educational changes.