

ROSCOMMON—A Protest Against Disunion

The Most Rev. Dr. Clancy, Bishop of Elphin, writing to Mr. P. H. McHugh, M.P., says:—'I have been accustomed, since I became Bishop of the diocese, to send a contribution of £5 annually to the Irish Parliamentary Fund. I double my subscription this year as an expression of confidence in the Irish Party, and as a protest against disunion and factionism.'

TIPPERARY—A Very Sudden Death

Whilst transacting business in a shop in Thurles, the Rev. J. O'Sullivan, pastor of Moyne and Templetoohy, was seized with illness, became unconscious, and passed away a few hours later. The deceased, who was a native of Ballingarry, had been for over forty years a priest.

WESTMEATH—A Successful Protest

As the result of a protest made by the people of Mullingar against the production of the piece, 'A wild Irish boy,' and also the play, 'A Coastguard's daughter' in the town, the former was withdrawn, and the latter was submitted to a committee of townspeople for pruning purposes, the manager of the Hubert O'Grady Company having agreed to produce the piece as so revised.

WEXFORD—The Esmonde Estate

Negotiations have been completed for the purchase by the tenants on the Kilynan estate of Sir T. H. G. Esmonde, Bart, M.P., of their holdings, the terms agreed upon being 23 years' purchase, which means a reduction of 5s in the £ on the present rent. All arrears are to be wiped out.

GENERAL

Poultry and Eggs

During the year 1906, Great Britain imported poultry and eggs to the value of £7,967,254. Irish supplies represented £2,800,000 of this sum. Compared with the exports from Ireland in 1832, when they amounted to only £182,500, there appears an increase in the value of shipments of poultry produce from Ireland of £2,617,500 in a little over seventy years. This rate of increase in the exports of poultry and eggs should continue for the next ten or twelve years, and this branch of Ireland's commerce will out-distance the present export trade in butter, which last year amounted to £3,195,015, and has always been considered one of Ireland's chief industries.

Irish Lace

At a recent meeting of the Congested Districts Commission Mr. J. D. Wakker, Industries Inspector, gave some interesting evidence regarding the earnings of lace-workers. He stated that it has been found that the supply of superior qualities of lace had tended to produce an increased demand. Ten years ago there was neither demand for, nor the supply of, lace which existed at present. The turn-over of the Irish Lace Depot, for instance, had increased from £5000 per year ten years since, to £34,000 last year; and, beside the Lace Depot, there were now a considerable number of wholesale purchasers who do a large trade. Continuing, witness said, for a number of years the Irish Lace Depot took the bulk of the work produced. The Board's classes, however, take orders from any wholesale buyers, the only instructions to traders being that the patterns of one firm were not to be sold to another. In practise it generally followed that the bulk of the produce of any one class goes to one firm, which usually keeps the class constantly employed. There were last year 53 classes established by the Board in various parts of the country districts engaged in the production of lace and embroidery, from which the total earnings paid to workers amounted to £21,580. The laces produced were crochet, guipure, applique, Limerick, needle-point, and renaissance lace. The latter is sold under the name of Connemara curtains.

'The publication of an advertisement in a Catholic paper shows that the advertiser not only desires the patronage of Catholics, but pays them the compliment of seeking it through the medium of their own religious journal.' So says an esteemed and wide-awake American contemporary. A word to the wise is sufficient...

People We Hear About

Madame Adelina Patti, who had a birthday celebration on February 19, was born in Madrid in 1843.

Lieutenant-Colonel Paul A. Kenna, V.C., D.S.O., commanding 21st (Empress of India's) Lancers, has been appointed an aide-de-camp to the King, and is promoted to the brevet rank of Colonel. Colonel Kenna is a cousin of his Eminence Cardinal Moran.

Mr. Benjamin Hoare, who has written several attractive books for the Catholic Truth Society, is the principal leader writer of the Melbourne 'Age,' and he exercises a large amount of influence in State politics. He is an ardent protectionist.

Madame Sarah Bernhardt, who has succeeded Pierre Laugier in the Chair of Stage Elocution at the Conservatoire, Paris, has hitherto been refused the Red Ribbon of the Legion of Honor. But the Chancellery will find it more difficult to refuse it to the professor than to the actress.

The editor of the 'Daily Mail,' London, is Mr. Thomas Marlowe, whose father was a Waterford man. He is married to the second daughter of Mr. John Morrison Davidson, the well-known barrister and journalist, whose 'Book of Erin' and other works are very popular amongst the masses of the people.

Mr. J. J. McGee, who has been Clerk of the Privy Council, Canada, for twenty-five years, has resigned owing to ill-health. Mr. McGee was born in Wexford sixty-two years ago, and has been in Canada for upwards of forty years. He is a brother of the late Hon. Thomas D'Arcy McGee.

Commander Holland, D.S.O., who took up his duties as Marine Superintendent at Fleetwood, on New Year's Day, is a son of the late Mr. Denis Holland, of Dublin, founder of the 'Irishman' newspaper, now long defunct. In 1896 he married the eldest daughter of the late Mr. Edmund Dwyer Gray, proprietor of the 'Freeman's Journal.'

One of the most salient characteristics of Lord Kitchener's rule in India is his habit of committing as little as possible to paper. To give an order by word of mouth he will wire a general to come a forty-eight hours' journey to see him; and, when he arrives, ten minutes' rapid conversation, a curt farewell—and the much-dreaded interview is over. In this way, riding rough-shod over time and space and officers, does 'K' successfully circumvent the constant prying and espionage which surround and gall him.

For few men has exile been made quite so pleasant as for Don Carlos, the Pretender to the throne of Spain. Many of his years of exile have been spent in his palace in Venice, where the great wealth which his wife, Princess Maria de Rohan, brought him, has surrounded him with luxury and pomp which are almost kingly. In Venice the tall, stately figure of the Pretender is a familiar sight, either walking with an escort of his favorite dogs or taking his ease in his gondola. But the Prince is a restless man, and rarely stays long in one place. One day he is in Paris, another in Russia; and, in fact, the whole of Europe is his home, until the time when he draws in earnest the sword which his wife gave him, and which bears the inscription, 'Draw me not without right, nor sheathe me without honor.'

Cardinal Merry del Val, the Pope's Secretary of State, has played a prominent role in the recent crisis of the Church in France. Tall and slim of figure, graceful of motion, he shows the highest type of the Andalusian in every feature. As a young man he was very fond of pranks. When the Cardinal goes on his rounds he drives in a vehicle, sombre and heavy, drawn by two black stallions with flowing manes. He is the first Cardinal to indulge in golf, a game which he plays twice weekly over a private course in the grounds of the Villa Doria-Pamphili. His leisure time is spent at the Papal summer palace of Castel Gandolfo, which the Italian Government has connected with the Vatican by telephone for the greater convenience of the Cardinal. He is an advocate of all modern labor-saving improvements, and has introduced telephones, elevators, electric lights, and typewriters into the Vatican.

Vegetarian experts assert that one acre of land will comfortably support four persons on a vegetable diet.

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SATURDAYS.