

People We Hear About

A great many stories are told about the late Sir John Day. One of them is this: In his time the treadmill was still used for the punishment of prisoners, and Sir John, while on circuit in the north, determined to find out for himself what the punishment was like. So he mounted a treadmill, and soon had quite enough of the experience. When he asked to be set free, however, the gaoler in charge pretended not to hear him, and when the judge was released beads of perspiration stood on his brow.

The Marquess of Ripon has established at least one remarkable record in politics, for he has sat, with one exception, in every Liberal Cabinet since Lord Palmerston's last Administration. The exception was that of Mr. Gladstone's second Government, when the Marquess was in India acting as Viceroy. While popular with the native rank and file, he did not find favor with Europeans in India. In a candid moment Lord Ripon once gave a very effusive admirer his own impressions of the matter. 'I congratulate you on your courage and public spirit in pursuing such a large-minded and liberal policy in the East,' said the gushing one. 'It is very good of you to say so, my dear —,' replied his Lordship, 'but, to tell you the truth' (taking his friend's arm confidentially), 'I don't believe that anyone in India approved my policy except my old Scotch gardener!'

Caruso was glad at one time to earn a few shillings as an iron and steel worker—his father's trade—in order to make both ends meet. Many a whipping did Caruso get, as a boy, for raising his juvenile voice in song when his father considered he ought to be devoting his attention to the turning-lathe. But when the organist of the Church of St. Anna, Naples, engaged him as a member of the choir at 10d a week, Caruso decided that music was his forte. He ultimately quitted the parental roof, and earned a few shillings per week by singing in church choirs. But it was a hard struggle, and he was obliged to vary his occupation as singer by working at different periods at his father's trade. Then came compulsory military service, after which he managed to get an engagement at the Opera House, Palermo, at a salary of £48 per month, and that was the beginning of the Caruso furore.

In a recent number of the American 'Ecclesiastical Review' there is an interesting article on the late Archbishop Murphy and his schoolmaster. The schoolmaster (says the 'Monitor') was Mr. Goolding, an ex-Maynooth student. Having found that he had no vocation to the priesthood, Mr. Goolding left St. Patrick's College and became tutor for several years in the family of the O'Reillys of Limerick to the late Rev. Edmund O'Reilly, afterwards the distinguished Maynooth professor, and later still a member of the Society of Jesus. When his pupil entered Maynooth College, Mr. Goolding found occupation in Kerry as tutor in the family of the Galloways—then agents to the Earl of Kenmare. Among his pupils there was the late Father Peter Galloway, S.J., who died not so long ago in London. After some years spent in Kerry, Mr. Goolding opened an academy of his own in the City of Cork. Among his pupils there were the late Archbishops of Hobart and Melbourne, Dr. Murphy and Dr. Gould, O.S.A. The writer of the article, Mr. R. F. O'Connor, Cork, was among the last of Mr. Goolding's pupils. He has many interesting things to tell of his master, who was evidently held in high esteem by all his pupils. We learn among other things that Mr. Goolding in his latter days fell upon evil times. Failing health compelled him to relinquish school teaching, and he had made no provision for such a contingency as a long season of privation and want of funds. The affection of his pupils, however, stood him in good stead, and among those who constantly contributed to make his last days happy was his Grace the late Archbishop of Hobart. Year by year he always sent help to his old teacher until, Mr. Goolding's death. No one knew it except the Archbishop and the recipient of his bounty, and now, as in several other instances brought to light since the Archbishop's death, it is the grateful recognition of his bounty by the recipients of it that made the fact known. Among the documents left by the late Mr. Goolding, the writer of the article found some that revealed this constant goodness on the part of our beloved Archbishop.

Dr. Foley spoke to the congregation on the evils of betting and intemperance. His Lordship said he feared the practice of betting was much on the increase in the County Kildare, and not alone were they betting on races in Ireland, but on the races on the other side of the Channel. Even servants and other persons who were not able to afford it had their shillings and half-crowns on horses. In particular, he warned persons who had the money of other persons in their charge to avoid betting, as, after making perhaps one 'plunge' and losing, there was then the danger of the temptation of speculation in order to recoup the loss.

QUEEN'S COUNTY—National Degeneration

Speaking at the opening of a Tuberculosis Exhibition at Mountmellick, General Sir William Butler said that since his boyhood fifty years ago the Irish race, taken as a whole, had materially degenerated. A distinct change for the worse had taken place in the physical aspect of the people of Ireland. The climate was not at fault, because a marked improvement has taken place in stock of all kinds. 'The soil,' he said, 'is all right, but the domiciles and food of the people are all wrong. The food used now differs from the food used fifty years ago to the detriment of the race. Acid cured bacon and adulterated foods and poisonous tea have supplanted our plain and nutritious foods.'

ROSCOMMON—The Late Sir Nicholas O'Connor

The late Sir Nicholas Roderick O'Connor, of Dundermot, Ballymoe, Co. Roscommon, formerly British Minister at Peking and Ambassador at Constantinople, who died on March 19, aged sixty-four, left personal estate valued at £53,850, of which £44,276 is in England.

TYRONE—A Pastor Welcomed Home

The Rev. P. Quinn, the popular pastor of Stewartstown, returned home on June 18, after an absence of nine months in the United States, where he had been engaged in raising funds to assist in the building of a parochial house and schools for the people. The rev. gentleman was met at the railway station by the local band, accompanied by the school children, and preceded by a brake and an ever-increasing crowd, who, needless to say, accorded him a hearty and enthusiastic welcome. The procession made a circuit of the square, and halted at the Courthouse, where an address was presented and speeches delivered. The Courthouse was thronged to overflowing, and the enthusiasm of the crowd was unbounded.

TIPPERARY—Re-opening of a Church

Through the exertions of the Very Rev. Canon C. J. Flavin, V.F., SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Clonmel, has been practically rebuilt at a cost of over £6000.

WATERFORD—Mount Melleray

The consecration of the Right Rev. Maurus O'Phelan, the recently elected Abbot of the Cistercian Abbey Monastery of Mount Melleray, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford, was to take place on July 16.

WEXFORD—Order of the Holy Sepulchre

Monsignor Camessei, Patriarch of Jerusalem, and head of the Order of the Holy Sepulchre, has appointed Sir Thomas Esmonde, M.P., to be representative of the Order in Ireland.

GENERAL

Good Results

Mr. Patrick Ford, editor of the 'Irish World,' in a letter to the editor of the 'Derry Journal,' says in his opinion much good will result from the visit of his Eminence Cardinal Logue to the United States. Fifty years ago such a demonstration to a distinguished Irishman and dignitary of the Catholic Church in America would have been impossible.

Not Disqualified

Mr. W. O'Brien, M.P., has received the following letter from the Chancellor of the Exchequer:—Dear O'Brien,—I have received your letter about the asylum in your constituency for aged people kept by the Little Sisters of the Poor. On the facts given in your letter, it is quite clear they are not disqualified for old age pensions under the Bill, and I am glad to be able to reassure you on this point.

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