

Irish News

ANTRIM—Italian Earthquake Fund

The Most Rev. Dr. Tohill, Bishop of Down and Connor, acknowledges a cheque for £200 from Miss Teresa Hamill, Trench House, Belfast, towards the earthquake fund. Miss Hamill and her sister wished to make it the occasion of expressing their heartfelt thanksgiving to the Holy Father, who felt so intensely the terrible sufferings of his unhappy children, and for the many spiritual favors which the Hamill family had received from his Holiness.

Banquet to Mr. Devlin

Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., was to be entertained at a banquet in Belfast on February 11. Mr. John Redmond, M.P., chairman of the Irish Party, was to preside on the occasion, and was to be supported by Mr. John Dillon.

CLARE—The Quilty Disaster

The following members of the County Clare Force stationed in the Ennistymon district have received from the French Government the bronze medal and diploma bearing the signature of the Minister of Marine, for their services in assisting in the rescue of the crew of the French barque *Leon XIII.*, which was wrecked at Quilty, County Clare, on October 2, 1907. District Inspector James Reid, Ennistymon; Sergeant John Maloney, Milltown-Malbay; Sergeant James Brien, Mullough; Acting-Sergeant Daniel Comerford; Constables Denis Shanahan, Patrick Doran, Richard Kell, Thomas Gillman, Michael O'Shea, John W. Giles, Peter Clancy, Owen F. Kerrigan, James Harrington, Timothy McCarthy, Patrick Hayes, Francis Rooney, and William R. McBride, since transferred from Milltown-Malbay to Belfast. The medal is inscribed with the recipient's name and attached to a very neat French tri-color ribbon. His Majesty King Edward VII. has granted special permission for the acceptance and wearing of the decoration by the men so highly honored.

DERRY—White Gloves for the Judge

Judge Overend, K.C., was presented at Magherafelt Quarter Sessions with a pair of white gloves in recognition of there being no criminal business. In acknowledging the compliment, the judge thanked the sub-sheriff, and expressed the hope that the satisfactory state of affairs would long continue.

DUBLIN—A Destructive Fire

One of the most alarming fires that have occurred in the City of Dublin for a considerable period broke out at an early hour on Sunday morning, January 24, in the extensive manure and chemical works of Messrs. W. and H. M. Goulding, Limited, situate at the North Wall extension, and promptly obtained such a hold as to necessitate the continued labors of the full strength of the Dublin Fire Brigade for several hours before the flames were finally subdued. Damage to the extent of several thousand pounds was done.

The Lord Mayor

Alderman Coffey has been elected Lord Mayor of Dublin for the ensuing year. He is a Nationalist and a life-long temperance advocate.

Some Irish History

Speaking at a gathering of the National Literary Society in Dublin, Dr. Sigerson said that the Normans excluded the Irish Catholics from the walled cities and expelled the Irish monks and nuns. When they changed their religion in England, the Penal Laws followed, but in both cases the question of religion entered not at all—it was a question of the government of the country and of the ignoring of the people by an autocracy. When Englishmen passed over to Ireland they ceased to be Englishmen, and once the interest of the English settled in Ireland seemed to overreach in any degree upon the interest of the English remaining in England, the colony had to go under. Throughout the whole history of Ireland it had been manifest that whilst settlers came as conquerors and as strangers, they soon fused with the people of Ireland, owing to the strange glamor of the Celtic nature. It was thus that men like Swift rose to defend the interests of the colony against oppression, and spoke with a voice which endeared them to the entire nation.

Licensing Legislation

With the opening of the new year (writes a Dublin correspondent) renewed efforts are being made to deal with the drink evil. Under the auspices of the Irish Association for the Prevention of Intemperance, large and enthusiastic meetings have been held in Dublin and Belfast, at each of which the dominant note struck was 'Onward

still.' This is only as it should be, for although considerable improvement has taken place in the habits of the people, there is plenty of work for temperance advocates still to do. Mr. T. W. Russell, M.P., who presided at the Dublin meeting held in the Ancient Concert Rooms, said that the bill which the Lords so contemptuously rejected was not dead yet. That bill was the bill of the Government, and the Government would see that the work bestowed upon it was not lost. With regard to legislation; he trusted that long before this Parliament came to an end his friend, Mr. Hazleton, and he would have an opportunity of voting for an Irish Licensing Reform Bill. He hoped that Lord Lansdowne, who had brought all the calamities of the land trouble upon the country by the rejection of the Compensation for Disturbance Bill, would not be allowed to begin another period of wreck and ruin for the country by perpetuating the evils of the liquor traffic as he had undoubtedly perpetuated the evils of an unjust land system.

GALWAY—Resignation of the Bishop

The resignation is announced of the senior Irish Bishop, the Most Rev. Dr. Francis McCormack (Bishop of Galway and Kilmacduagh), and its acceptance at Rome is notified. Throughout the diocese the news has caused the most profound regret. Dr. McCormack was born at Ballintubber in 1833, being therefore in his 76th year. Educated at Maynooth, he was ordained to the priesthood in 1862, and in 1871 was appointed from a curacy to be Coadjutor-Bishop of Achonry, succeeding to the See in 1875. From there he was transferred in 1887 to the United Sees of Galway and Kilmacduagh, and to the Apostolic Administration of Kilménora. The Galway diocese is a comparatively modern one, being erected in 1831. The Bishop is a member of the governing body of the University College, Galway.

The Bog Slide

Some eighty people have been rendered homeless in consequence of the bog-slip at Ballygar, County Galway, while one poor woman, Mrs. McDonnell, lost her life in the disaster. The sufferings and misery of the afflicted peasants, whose homes have been obliterated by the avalanche, are great indeed. Bereft of their little holdings, without food or shelter, or the means to provide either, their lot is deplorable. The scene of misery as described by those on the spot is enough to melt the heart of even the most hardened. An appeal for the victims has been made by Very Rev. Dr. Kieley, Ballygar, and Mr. John MacDonnell, vice-chairman, Galway County Council. The latter says the sufferers were a thrifty, industrious people, but the future looms drear and hopeless before them if immediate help is not forthcoming.

KILKENNY—The Archbishop of Trinidad

After an interval of nearly two years (says the *Free-man's Journal*), an appointment has been made to the Archiepiscopal See of Trinidad, in the person of the Most Reverend John Pius Dowling, O.P., who has administered the diocese since the death, in 1907, of the Most Rev. Vincent Patrick Flood, O.P. The new Archbishop was born at Freshford, County Kilkenny, in 1860, and made his classical studies at Rockwell College, County Tipperary. In 1881 he entered the Dominican Order at the Novitiate House in Tallaght, and finished his ecclesiastical studies in Rome, where he was ordained in 1887. He returned to Ireland the following year, and spent the next nine years in Tallaght as Novice-Master and Professor. In 1897 he returned to Rome as Prior of San Clemente. After spending seven years in the Eternal City, he was appointed Superior of the Trinidad Dominican Mission, and Vicar-General of the late Archbishop. The new Archbishop has been always of a retiring spirit, and has been noted for his devotion to prayer and study as well as for his kindness and charity. His administration of the diocese for the last two years has given unqualified satisfaction to the clergy and laity, and his pastoral letters have made it evident that he will be a worthy successor to Dr. Flood.

LIMERICK—Technical Education

It was announced at a recent meeting of the Limerick Technical Instruction Committee that Mrs. O'Brien, South Hill, had promised a donation of £100 towards the Dunraven Scholarship fund.

MAYO—An Eviction

A correspondent sends us (*Catholic Times*) a copy of an Irish provincial paper, in which appears an account of evictions on the Logan estate, West Mayo, and asks whether the details are not such as to make the reader's blood boil. That they are of the most harrowing character cannot be denied. The tenants who have been evicted because they have been a few pounds short in the rent

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