

## Irish News

### ANTRIM—Presentation in Belfast

The members of Division 45, of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Belfast, entertained Bro. Philip Fay at a social gathering, and presented him with a dressing-case, on January 25, prior to his departure for Auckland. Bro. Fay said that when he reached his new home he would tell his friends how the situation stood in Belfast, and they would be proud to hear that his Catholic and Protestant friends sat side by side on his last night in Belfast, and subscribed for the handsome presentation for which he now begged to return his thanks.

### CLARE—A Candid Opinion

In view of statements about Irish crime which are so freely made in the English press, some observations made by Judge Bodkin at the Ennis Quarter Sessions may prove to be interesting and, perhaps, illuminating. There was only one case for trial at these sessions. Judge Bodkin said he did not think it was part of his function as judge to indulge in remarks on any agrarian disturbances that may exist in the county, and he did not intend, and never would enter into any political discussion there. He thought it a matter for congratulation that, so far as ordinary crime was concerned, Clare—and he believed the same remark applied to all Ireland—compared favorably with any country in the world.

### CORK—A New Catholic College

The Irish Franciscan Fathers have acquired for their students the well-known Protestant College, called Berkley Hall, situated just beside the Queen's College, Cork. This spacious college, which will henceforth be called, very appropriately, St. Anthony's Hall, was built by the famous Dr. Webster, of Cork, and was completed in 1885. He intended it as a lecture hall and hostel for the students attending the Queen's College. He also had a house built in connection with it, called the Dean's residence, where he himself resided. For the few years during which he had charge, the college served its original purpose fairly well, but after his death its period of usefulness abruptly terminated, and no one seemed to possess a particle of the enthusiasm which actuated Dr. Webster in founding and maintaining it, so that it had to be closed. It was afterwards sold to Mr. Donovan, the present Lord Mayor of Cork, from whom it was lately purchased by the Franciscans. It is an interesting fact that Berkley Hall is built on the site of the famous Irish monastery and school of St. Finbarr, the patron saint of Cork, where that great luminary of the ancient Irish Church lived and taught. It seems, therefore, like a special disposition of Divine Providence that Berkley Hall should come into the possession of the Franciscan Order, so renowned in Ireland for patriotism, piety, and learning, and which has done so much for Faith and Fatherland, especially during the terrible years of persecution, when their schools and monasteries, whose ruins now cover the land and excite the admiration of all Irishmen, were plundered and destroyed.

### A Venerable Old-age Pensioner

An astounding claim for an old age pension has been received by the Middleton (County Cork) Pensions Subcommittee, the applicant being a well-known East Cork centenarian, residing at Clonmult, seven miles from Middleton, and whose age has been vouched for at one hundred and two years. This remarkable claimant is believed to be the oldest applicant for a State pension in Ireland.

### DUBLIN—Lady Aberdeen's New Paper

A new monthly journal has been established by Lady Aberdeen, wife of the Lord Lieutenant. It is called *Slainte*, which means 'Good health.' The purpose of the journal is to help Lady Aberdeen in her campaign against consumption in Ireland. In her introductory note she writes: 'Why has so much interest been evoked in this national health movement? We can only find a reason in the fact that the people of Ireland, of all classes and creeds, led by the doctors and by the clergy of all denominations, have awakened to the fact that a race of vigorous, healthy, temperate citizens is the greatest wealth that any country can possess, and that as there have been many sad causes at work undermining the health of the people of Ireland, a great and sustained effort must be made to eradicate these sources of trouble and to give to Ireland her natural right of being one of the healthiest countries in the world.'

### Death of the Oldest Irish Surgeon

The death is announced of Dr. George Ellis, who is believed to be the oldest Irish surgeon. Dr. Ellis died

at his Dublin residence at the age of one hundred years. He took his M.B. degree in 1834, and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 1844. He had retired from practice forty years ago. Dr. Ellis was the author of 'Irish Ethnology, Socially and Politically Considered,' and wrote several articles in medical journals.

### A Venerable Priest

At the great age of eighty-five there passed away on January 30, at Milltown Park, Dublin, a famous Jesuit preacher and missionary, the Rev. William Kelly. He was one of three brothers, who were distinguished members of the Society of Jesus. Father William, the eldest of the three, studied for some years in Maynooth College, and, later on, joined his two younger brothers in the society. He was afterwards sent to Australia as the pioneer of Jesuit Missions in that country. In a few years he occupied there a position of great prominence as a preacher. He returned to Ireland some twenty years ago, and his later years were passed at Milltown Park, as Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Hebrew. He had a wonderful fund of learned lore and a fine taste in literature—he was as familiar with Homer, Pindar, and Dante as with Sir Walter Scott. He was well versed in Eastern languages, and was an authority among the Persian scholars of the day. Joined to these gifts were a sweet simplicity and humility of character which endeared him to everyone with whom he came in contact.

### GALWAY—Want of Arterial Drainage

His Eminence Cardinal Logue, in a letter to the Very Rev. Dr. Kilty, P.P., Ballygar, enclosing a generous subscription for the victims of the Galway bogslide, says the sad occurrence emphasises a want which has been long felt and acknowledged in Ireland—the want of arterial drainage. Large tracts of the country are waterlogged, and there is no means of drawing off the water, which is rendering those districts almost useless.

### Protest Against Police Tax

Lord Killanin, who was present at a recent meeting of Galway County Council, protested strongly against the imposition of £8000 for extra police upon the entire county. The monstrosity of the thing, he said, was the charging for the police to a district fifty or sixty miles away from where there was a disturbance. It was an awful thing, he declared, that £8000 should be levied, which would establish twenty scholarships in the new University for all time.

### LOUTH—Golden Jubilee

The Golden Jubilee of Brother P. A. Gallagher was fittingly celebrated at St. Joseph's, Drogheda, on January 30. The interesting occasion was joyfully ushered in by a telegram from Rome bestowing the Papal Benediction on the worthy jubilarian; and the presence of a large number of Christian Brothers from the neighboring towns testified to the esteem in which he is held. The Ven. Archdeacon Segrave, P.P., V.G., and the Very Rev. Guardian of the Franciscans, the Very Rev. Priors of the Dominican and Augustinian Fathers, as well as the Nuns of the different Convents, forwarded suitable presents and congratulations. Complimentary letters and telegrams from many absent friends—one especially from the Superior-General, Rev. Brother J. C. Whitty—were received during the day.

### SLIGO—The Archbishop of Melbourne

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, whilst the guest of the Most Rev. Dr. Clancy during the last week in January, received an address of welcome from the pupils of the Ursuline Convent, Sligo, and attended an entertainment given in his honor.

### TIPPERARY—To Reinstat Evicted Tenants

A long-desired settlement has been arrived at as regards the O'Brien property, Mullinahone. The Estates Commissioners have decided to purchase the whole property, including part of the town of Mullinahone and lands adjoining, and will at once proceed to reinstate the evicted tenants, who number nearly thirty. It will be remembered that the property was evicted twenty years ago, and one of the stiffest fights under the Plan of Campaign took place there for years. There were wholesale persecutions and imprisonments. Mr. J. E. Redmond, M.P., defended some of the prisoners. The evictions almost ruined Mullinahone, a whole street of houses, built by industrious tenants, being left derelict. For some time past negotiations for a settlement have been in progress, and the Rev. W. Cantwell, P.P., and Alderman Condon, M.P., with the local committee, have spared no effort to secure its success. The result is most gratifying to all parties, and, while closing a painful chapter of the Land War, opens up a new era of happiness and prosperity for Mullinahone and district.

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