

Irish News.

ANTRIM.—Intolerance in Belfast.—At the Belfast Board of Guardians' meeting on Tuesday (says the *Tablet*, November 25) Catholic matters bulked very largely in the debates, but in all cases the action of a section of the Board was to a large extent checked after a struggle carried on by the Catholic Guardians assisted by some liberal-minded Protestants. A Catholic young man named Lupane was lately appointed assistant in the workhouse, and because he did an hour's work outside in the morning, for which he compensated by giving an additional hour in the house, a dead set was made against him. Mr. Allison moved that the resolution appointing Lupane be rescinded, and he alleged that the appointment was made in the first instance because of services Lupane had rendered to the Catholic party. The Catholics had foisted this young man on the Guardians, and had made his hours of duty to suit his holding an outside post, that of deputy registrar for Dr. Torrans, which he (Mr. Allison), representing a certain section of the ratepayers, would not tolerate. Mr. Despard, a Protestant, moved an amendment that Mr. Lupane be retained, but that he must give his entire time to his duties in the workhouse, and this was seconded by Mr. Harrison, another Protestant. Dr. McDonnell and Mr. William O'Hare (Catholics) protested against the allegations made. They were not sent there to represent Catholics alone, but the poor of the city; and they asserted that the continual introduction of the religious question had had a most demoralising effect upon the Board. After a long discussion the amendment was carried by fourteen votes to thirteen, five Guardians not voting. Miss Callwell (Protestant) then moved that the Catholic nurses in the house be allowed to attend Mass in the workhouse on Sunday mornings. Mr. Walker objected on the ground that the change would place extra duty upon the Protestant nurses, and Mr. Allison strongly protested against the continual endeavour to satisfy the Catholics at the expense of the Protestant members of the staff. The motion of Miss Callwell was not defeated, but was sent back to the Infirmary Committee for further consideration.

CARLOW.—Laying the Foundation-stone of a New Convent School.—On the Feast of the Assumption was laid the foundation-stone of the new schools about to be erected in Carlow for the Sisters of the Assumption. New and enlarged accommodation has been for some time very urgently required for the 500 girls who receive their education from the nuns, and some six months ago the Bishop authorised the Rev. John Cullen, Adm., to take the initiative in remedying a state of things that militated against the efficiency of the teaching. Plans were drawn up by the late Mr. William Hague, which involved an estimated expenditure of £2,441, with an additional £300 for heating and furniture. The Commissioners of National Education were prevailed upon to advance £1,200, and a bazaar resulted in a net profit of £1,222. The new buildings will be a continuation of the convent.

CORK.—The late Monsignor Maguire.—A public meeting, convened by the Mayor of Cork on requisition, was held recently for the purpose of taking steps to perpetuate the memory of the late Monsignor Maguire. There was a large and representative attendance. A subscription list was opened, contributions being limited to a guinea. An influential committee was appointed to carry out the object of the meeting.

Death of a Religious.—The many friends and pupils of Loretto Convent, Fermoy, will learn with regret of the death of Mother M. Charles, on November 8. The deceased was second daughter of the late Mr. B. Ellis, Marianville, Maynooth, and niece to the celebrated Surgeon Ellis, so long connected with the National College. Miss Ellis entered Loretto College, Rathfarnham, in 1852, during the life of the venerated Foundress, Rev. Mother Teresa Ball. She was sent to Fermoy a few months after that convent was founded in 1853. Her long and zealous life was devoted to the service of God in that community, where the memory of her edifying example will long remain.

DOWN.—A Laudable Undertaking in Newry.—A bazaar was held recently in the Town Hall, Newry, in aid of the funds for the furnishing of the Home for the Aged Poor and Orphans, presided over by the Sisters of Mercy. The new Home, which was erected at a cost of £4000, is the gift to the Sisters of Mercy of Mr. Thomas Fegan, Newry, a gentleman who has not for the first time shown his liberality in behalf of the helpless aged poor and orphans. His Lordship the Bishop of Dromore opened the proceedings with a suitable and enthusiastic address, in which he alluded to the work accomplished by the Sisters of Mercy, whose hands were unfailingly strengthened by the co-operation and generosity of his faithful flock.

DUBLIN.—A Well-known Priest Leaves for Australia.—On November 10 the Very Rev. Father Gregory, C.P., left London for Australia. The rev. gentleman was the late Provincial of the Anglo-Hibernian Province of the Passionist Order, and at the recent Chapter held at Mount Argus in July was appointed Provincial for Australia. This is his second visit to the Antipodes, and his many friends throughout the country regret exceedingly his departure.

The Civic Disabilities of the Clergy.—The inaugural meeting of the Solicitors' Apprentices Debating Society, Dublin, was made the occasion of a very interesting discussion. The subject of the auditor's address was 'Some Civic Disabilities Under Representative Government.' The author dealt most logically with the disabilities to which clergymen and women are subjected. The discussion was in great part concentrated on the penal provision of the recent Local Government Bill, which deprives the Irish priest from the rights of citizens. In a very able speech the Very Rev. J.

A. Finlay, S.J., reviewed the present position of the Irish clergy in regard to the Local Government Act. In the course of his address he said he would content himself for the present with alluding merely to the part of the auditor's address in reference to the deprivation of civic rights inflicted by the law on the clergy of all denominations in the country. Equity demanded that the clergymen of all churches should be recognised as citizens, and should be received into civil society with the rights and privileges of citizens. It was a glaring intrusion upon their civil rights that they should be received as citizens and at the same time the Government should undertake to deal with them with the authority that it might possibly have over an estate of the realm. If the ministers of religion were treated as citizens they must be wholly and entirely treated as such. They were quite prepared to believe that the special sphere of work of a parish priest lay within the borders of his own parish; that the ministrations of the sick and comforting of the dying, and the rest of those duties, might claim exclusively the time, attention, and the energies of the priest. What they did not admit was that it was the business of the State to dictate to the priest how, where, and when he was to discharge his spiritual duties. They had heard a great deal of the doctrine of the priest confining himself to his own duty. They were told very much that his special place was within the altar rails. That might be very true, and doubtless when those interested in such matters—from a spiritual point of view—were discussing them amongst themselves they insisted on the fact that the British Government could not define for them where the altar rails began and where they ended. The business of the Government was to deal with them as citizens and citizens only. Continuing, Father Finlay said he predicted that unless a protest was made against that evil precedent it might possibly develop into consequences which the generation which had taken it so lightly might eventually rue.

Departure of a Priest for Belfast.—The Christian Doctrine Society at Mount Argus have presented an illuminated address to the Rev. Father Hubert Carruth, their late spiritual director, on the occasion of his transfer to the Belfast community. The Rev. Father Benedict addressed the meeting, at which the address was presented, and referred to Father Hubert's many good qualities which had endeared him to all and had made his work in the Society so successful. The secretary then read the address, and Father Hubert replied in kind and touching words.

Presentation to a Journalist.—The staff of the *Freeman's Journal* availed of the occasion of the marriage of Mr. J. P. Gaynor, B.L., to present him with a mark of the regard in which he is held by them. Their feelings of esteem found expression in a handsome address, most artistic in design and beautiful in finish, accompanying a valuable wedding gift. The presentation was made by Mr. J. B. Hall, of the *Freeman's Journal*, who made some happy references to those qualities of head and heart, those traits of good comradeship which have won for Mr. Gaynor such a secure place in the affections of his colleagues. Mr. Gaynor, in well-chosen and eloquent terms, expressed his acknowledgment of the compliment paid him. Mr. Gaynor is well known in Ulster social and journalistic circles, having been for many years a valued member of the literary staff of the Belfast *Morning News* prior to his joining the ranks of journalism in the metropolis.

Irish Genius in English Literature.—At the inaugural meeting of the University College Literary and Historical Society held in the Aula Maxima of the College, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin, the Very Rev. Dr. Delaney, S.J., presided. The hall was crowded. Mr. Arthur E. Clery, Auditor, delivered an interesting address, entitled 'Irish Genius in English Literature.' Among the other speakers were the Rev. Dr. Hickey, Maynooth, Judge Adams, Mr. John Dillon, M.P., and Mr. M. McD. Bodkin, Q.C.

GALWAY.—The Education Question.—The Bishop of Galway, in distributing the prizes to the successful students of St. Patrick's Seminary, alluded to the melancholy position in which the education question now stands, the urgency of which has been admitted by the representative statesmen of all parties, but whose procedure is blocked by an intolerant minority. His Lordship regretted the Government would not do its duty to the Catholics of Ireland. 'Both the Leader of the House of Commons and the Chief Secretary had admitted,' he said, 'that the Catholics were entitled to a separate University, yet they made no efforts to satisfy the just claims of the vast majority of Irishmen. The truth was that the Government was afraid of the Opposition of the Orange Party in the North. Unfortunately their Parliamentary representation was ineffective, but he would advise all to press on the question, and never cease to agitate until their efforts were crowned with success.'

TIPPERARY.—Death of the Pastor of Cappawhite.—General regret was felt in the diocese of Cashel when the death of the Rev. J. P. Crowe, parish priest of Cappawhite was announced. The sad event took place somewhat suddenly at the parochial residence. Father Crowe was born in Cappawhite, and was for many years pastor of his native parish, where he was beloved and esteemed by his people. He remodelled the church and built splendid schools. The interment took place at Cappawhite.

GENERAL.

An English Opinion of Mr. Michael Davitt.—In a recent issue of the *Sketch*, the well-known illustrated London weekly, there was the following appreciation of the late member for Mayo:—'Mr. Davitt, who has been so much complimented by Conservatives on retiring from the House of Commons, was a greater Parliamentary force out of the House than in it. Rarely has so much poison been shown by the Nationalists as they expressed when Michael Davitt was arrested by the Liberal Government in 1881. His name frightened the House, but when he became a member the shell was broken. Mr. Davitt expressed the most unpopular opinions in the