

Irish News.

ANTRIM.—Putting down Orange Rowdiness in Belfast.—The Orange youth of Belfast (says the *Irish Weekly*) has a special predilection for indulging in the recreation of cursing the Pope when he is not engaged in any more congenial pastime peculiar to his race. Against this apart from consideration for the youth's own welfare, and pity for his ignorance, we have nothing to say. He may indulge his whim to his heart's content. But we have a strong objection to his being allowed to compel all and sundry to join him, and so has Mr. Hodder, R.M., who taught three young men in the custody court the other day a lesson they will not soon forget. These three worthies, who had attempted to force their opinions down other people's throats in the vicinity of a Catholic district, have been heavily fined and put under a rule of bail. Respectability and good character were unavailingly pleaded on their behalf—they almost always are—but your 'respectable' rowdy is the worst of all.

The Seal of the Belfast Board of Guardians.—Mr. Allison, a member of the Belfast Board of Guardians, has given notice that he will move at the next meeting, 'That a seal representing King William crossing the Boyne be obtained for this Union, in order to perpetuate the memory of the man who delivered us from Pope and Popery, leather money, and wooden shoes.' There is undoubtedly ample scope for an interesting debate on Mr. Allison's resolution (says the *Catholic Times*), and it is to be hoped that the chairman who has intimated his intention of closing King William's admirer, will relent before the day of battle.

ARMAGH.—Collecting funds for the Completion of the Cathedral.—His Eminence Cardinal Logue has authorised the Very Rev. Canon Rogers, P.P., Ardee, and the Rev. Thomas Cassidy, P.P., Louth, to proceed to America, with the object of collecting funds for the completion of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Armagh. Both reverend gentlemen have left for the United States, and will commence their mission in New York with the cordial approval of Archbishop Corrigan.

Clerical Changes in the Archdiocese.—His Eminence Cardinal Logue has made the following clerical changes in the archdiocese of Armagh:—Rev. Francis Murtogh, C.C., Ardee, has been appointed C.C., Dunleer, and Rev. P. Matthews, C.C., Dunleer to be C.C., Ardee.

CAVAN.—Retirement of a Police Superintendent.—Superintendent James Smith, of the Dublin Metropolitan police, has retired from the force, and has gone to live in his ancestral home, at Arva, County Cavan. When resident in Dublin Mr. Smith was remarkable for his calm and judicial temperament, and he left the metropolis respected and regretted by hosts of friends.

CORK.—A Family of Soldiers.—Mrs. O'Keefe, of Kinsale, County Cork, the widow of a sergeant in the Munster Fusiliers, who has seven sons serving in the British army, has received a letter from the Queen, through the private secretary, congratulating her on the fact and enclosing a present of £10.

The New Church at Charleville.—The new Catholic church at Charleville, County Cork, the foundation stone of which was laid 12 months ago by the Bishop of the diocese, is rapidly approaching completion.

DUBLIN.—A Remnant of the Penal Laws.—The other day (says the *Freeman's Journal*) the case of 'Hughes, a minor,' came on before the Lord Chancellor. We do not know that any matter of recent date has created so profound a feeling in Catholic circles as that which lies at the centre of this case. Mr. Hughes is a young man under the age of 21 who has entered the Jesuit Novitiate. He is entitled to some property, and, for some reason, probably of a legal character, it has seemed desirable to his legal advisers that he should be made a ward of Court. In approaching the Court in order to be made a ward, the young gentleman sought a sanction from the Chancellor for his act in entering the Novitiate. When the case came on before the Chancellor he, with that sound wisdom which he is not deficient in, sought to give the serious side of the case the go by. 'Why,' he said in effect, 'make this young gentleman a ward of Court at all? It is admitted that his guardians are faithful and his estate safe.' The upshot of the matter will be that the petition of wardship will be withdrawn and a troublesome question thus got rid of for a time. But it is only for a time that the matter is got rid of. It must arise again at an early date, and cannot in the end be avoided. When the case of 'Hughes, a minor,' was before the Chief Clerk in Chancery he refused to sanction the young man's entering the Novitiate, on the ground that the Jesuits were an illegal body like the Ribbon Society. This is the undoubted law of the land, and sooner or later the whole Catholic population of the Empire must join in securing the repeal of this infamous clause of a beneficial statute. Our modern civilisation has as its noblest product religious liberty. It is absolutely intolerable that the disgraceful laws against the Jesuits and the religious orders should be allowed to continue to disgrace the Statute Book, and it is not to the credit of the Irish Catholic members that an attack in force has not been made long ago. Catholics sit in the councils of the Empire. Catholic statesmen rule great provinces and are trusted with difficult posts of duty. The blood of the Catholic soldier has been freely shed for the English flag in every battlefield of the century from the Peninsula to the campaign of Ladysmith. It is intolerable that the regular priests of the Catholic Church should still remain outlaws and banned and proscribed men. Another singular trace of the old penal days was disclosed in the discussion in the Court of Chancery. When a young Catholic

lady who is a ward of Court seeks during her minority to enter a convent as a Novice permission is refused. Everyone knows that entering a convent as a Novice is no 'irrevocable step.' Years elapse during which the girl can return to the world. There is no Catholic circle in which there are not happy and respected matrons who found that they were mistaken in thinking that they had a vocation for the conventual life. The Chancellor is, of course, bound to see that the postulant knows her own mind and has considered the matter fully before she enters a convent. This being done leave should be given, as it is given for that truly 'irreparable step,' marriage. It is not care for the girl, but hate of Catholicity that has developed an opposite practice. The Chancellor stands in *loco parentis* to his wards. He should treat a ward of Court exactly as a wise and affectionate father would his own child.

Serious Accident to Mr. Davitt.—A serious accident befell Mr. Michael Davitt whilst driving along Great Brunswick street, Dublin, on November 24. Mr. Davitt was riding on an outside car, when the horse slipped and fell. Mr. Davitt was thrown violently off the car right in front of the horse's feet, and lay stunned on the pavement. Several spectators of the occurrence ran to his assistance, and helped him into a shop. He remained in a dazed condition for a considerable time, but refused to allow a doctor to be summoned, and drove off in a cab to the residence of Mr. John Dillon, M.P., North Great George's street. Shortly after entering the cab Mr. Davitt fainted, and on arrival at Mr. Dillon's was in a semi-unconscious condition. Dr. Thornley Stoker and Dr. Cox were sent for, and remained for some time in attendance upon him. He was injured both in the head and back. It was afterwards ascertained that he had sustained no permanent injury, the medical men pronounced him to be suffering from severe shock, which would necessitate perfect rest for several days.

GALWAY.—The value of Irish Marble.—A great deal of Galway marble is being employed in the building of the new Westminster Cathedral, and it is used even in the Sacred Heart Basilica at Paris. It is an interesting fact (says an American exchange) that two-thirds of the marble and granite quarry owners and operators in the United States are of Irish birth or descent. There are very few among the thousands of existing patents for quarrying, dressing, polishing, carving, and setting stone that are not the invention of men of the same race. The business of quarrying, dressing, and carving marble at Carrara remained unchanged from the time of Michael Angelo until a few years ago, when an enterprising Irish sculptor and stone-worker, who designed John W. Mackay's mausoleum, bought a quarry there and introduced the latest methods, but they did not produce any permanent benefit to the marble workers, for the Italian Government immediately clapped such big taxes on the quarry-owner that, as before the machinery was used, the workers continued to be nothing but slaves working for the Government. How important this business of quarrying is to the sculptor can only be gleaned by those who have read the lives of such men as John Hogan, who personally attended to the dressing of their own blocks and statuary, and worked at them with hammer and chisel until they had evolved their grand ideals.

KERRY.—The Muckross Estate.—An attempt was made to sell the Muckross estate, which includes the greater portion of the Lakes of Killarney, by auction in Dublin about the end of November, but the bidding, which started at £35,000 and ran up to £50,000, did not reach the upset price, and the property was passed in. A few days later the *Evening Telegraph* stated it was authorised to announce that the estate had been sold by private treaty. The purchase has been made by a firm of solicitors in trust for a purchaser, whose name would not be communicated to the Press. The amount of the purchase money was also withheld, but conjecture placed it in or near the sum of £50,000, which was the highest bid at the recent sale, at which the property was bought in on behalf of the vendor for £51,000. The greatest interest centred in the disclosure of the name of the purchaser, inasmuch as the question of the safeguarding of the public rights depended largely upon his character and personality. The *Evening Herald* now states that the purchaser of Killarney is Lord Iveagh. Messrs. Sutton, who completed the transaction, are the family solicitors of the Guinness family. The sum paid is not named, but rumour puts it at £50,000. If Lord Iveagh is really the purchaser the question of tourists' privileges is likely to be arranged in a way satisfactory to the public. The tolls amount annually to upwards of £1000, are easily collected, and, of course, become payable to the new owner. The rights accorded to visitors are merely permissive, but they do not interfere with the privacy of the demesne.

KILKENNY.—Dedication of a Church.—His Lordship the Bishop of Ossory dedicated recently the beautiful new church of St. Patrick, Kilkenny. The old church dated back to 1781, and had become unfit for further use. A great number of priests and an immense gathering of people witnessed the imposing ceremony. Father Kane, S.J., preached an eloquent sermon.

LIMERICK.—A Noble Pioneer of the Faith.—A pioneer of the Faith in Newfoundland passed away recently at Knockaney, in the person of the Rev. Michael Hanly, who had been stationed for a number of years at Harbour Grace. Father Hanly was brother of the Rev. Patrick Hanly, P.P. of Blessington, and the Rev. William Hanly, C.C., Leixlip. He was educated at Waterford College and ordained for the Dublin Archdiocese, but volunteered for the Newfoundland mission, which was sadly in need of priests, the Catholics being scattered over a wide area, and facilities for travelling very few. The good priest was frequently compelled to use an open boat on long journeys of 120 miles in almost Arctic cold, and at other times to cross immense forests in those ice-bound regions on a sledge drawn by dogs. The severity of the climate and the hard work told upon Father Hanly's health, and returning