

Irish News.

ANTRIM.—Appointment of Postmaster at Belfast.—A rumour has gained currency (says the *Irish Weekly*) that Mr. Sheridan, postmaster of Cork, has been appointed to the Belfast vacancy. There is little doubt the rumour will turn out to have foundation in fact, though no official announcement on the subject has been made. An evening contemporary goes out of its way to remind its readers that the gentleman appointed is a Catholic. It may be presumed, however, if the appointment has been made, religion did not enter into the calculations of the Postmaster-General. Seniority of service is the first consideration taken into account in most Government departments when a vacancy occurs and an appointment has to be made. In this case, therefore, if the rumour prove correct, the usual practice has been followed. According to the ethics of the Orange Lodges, Catholicity should be made a barrier to all promotion in the Post Office.

DUBLIN.—The better Housing of the Poor.—At a recent meeting of the Catholic Women's Total Abstinence League, Dublin, Mr. J. N. Briscoe, candidate for the councillorship of the Mountjoy ward in the interests of temperance and the better housing of the poor, said the cause they were fighting was a great one, and they now placed foremost on their programme the housing of the poor and the providing of sanitary houses for the people. So long as the people of Dublin were compelled to live in crumbling tenements, which the Corporation shirked the responsibility of compelling the owners to put in habitable repair, so long would the people be the victims of drink, disease, and crime.

Death of a veteran Musician.—The death is reported of the veteran Irish musician, Professor J. W. Glover. The deceased edited Duffy's edition of *Moore's Irish Melodies*, and put the accompaniments to Dr. P. W. Joyce's Irish tunes. Professor Glover had attained the great age of 86 years.

A Conductor who put his foot in it.—There is a story going the rounds of the Press which, if true, shows that the well known conductor, Hans Richter, committed a serious indiscretion recently in Dublin. During his stay in the Irish metropolis the Provost of Trinity invited him to a reception at his official residence, where all that is high, socially and intellectually, in Dublin had foregathered to meet him. During the course of the afternoon Professor Mahaffy delivered a short address to the distinguished musician in German. Hans Richter replied in English, but commenced by apologising for his inability to speak fluent English. However, he promised all who came to hear the performance of the Halle Band later in the evening to compensate them with his baton. He expressed the great pleasure he felt of having the opportunity of visiting Ireland, the land of scholarship of music, and, he added with a look that betokened his confidence in the applause of his audience, 'so cruelly oppressed by its neighbour.' If a lyddite shell had exploded in the Tory gathering the consternation could not have been greater. The musician's 'slip' was received with prolonged silence.

The Poor Servants of the Mother of God.—The Poor Servants of the Mother of God have, with the approbation of his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin, made a new foundation in Ireland. The Superioress who has been appointed matron of the Rathdown Union has reached the scene of her future labours, with her community and one of the Mother-General's assistants, and has had a cordial reception from the Guardians, Canon Quinn, P.P., Father O'Connor, C.C., and the parishioners.

Prayers for Peace.—In a postscript to the Advent Pastoral his Grace Archbishop Walsh, of Dublin, says: 'Subject to the arrangement notified on a previous occasion as applicable to all cases of collects prescribed by the diocesan authority, the prayer for the living and the dead (Pro vivis et defunctis), the last in order amongst the collects assigned in the missal for special occasions, is to be said at Mass when the rubrics permit during the continuance of the war now being waged in South Africa. Let us thus persevere in prayer to the Almighty that in His power and wisdom He may be pleased to bring to an end this war, so calamitous to all who are involved in it. Let us also implore His mercy on behalf of the victims of this disastrous conflict, on whichever side they may have fought, who dying in such sad circumstances, deprived as they must be in so many cases of all religious aid, have so strong a claim on our charitable sympathy.'

KERRY.—A Killarney Man at the Paris Conservatoire of Music.—Our readers (says a Kerry newspaper) will be glad to learn of the success of a young Killarney man at the Conservatoire of Music in Paris. At a recent examination held for the admission of pupils, Mr. John O'Sullivan succeeded in taking first place out of 90 candidates, and was received *à l'unanimité*. He now enters on a course of four years' study under the first masters in Paris. From a very early age he displayed considerable musical ability, and possesses a tenor of great compass, sweetness, and power. He is a son of the late Dr. John O'Sullivan, Killarney.

KING'S COUNTY.—Retirement of a Postmaster.—H. T. Love, who for 25 years has been postmaster of Tullamore, is shortly to retire. A committee of the townspeople has been formed to arrange for the presentation to Mr Love of an address and testimonial.

Death of a Venerable Nun.—A Home paper says that the announcement of the death of the Rev. Mother Mary Evangeliste, of the Order of Mercy, at Birr, was received with a feeling of deep and widespread sorrow. Mother Evangeliste was born at Nenagh in 1819, was professed in St. John's Convent, and

remained attached to it ever since, having as a valued colleague and co-worker the Venerable Mother Beckett, now an octogenarian, and the last, it is believed, of the nuns who received the veil from the foundress of the Order.

LIMERICK.—A Successful Young Man.—The vice-consul and chief judicial officer at Blantyre, Central Africa, is a young Limerick man, Mr Joseph J. Nunan, a graduate of the Royal University and of Trinity College, Dublin. He is also studying for the Irish Bar, and recently won the junior fellowship in English of the Royal University, £200 a year for four years. He also won the Blake History Scholarship and the Vice-Chancellor's prize for English Composition at Trinity, and the Bacon scholarship at Gray's Inn. Mr Nunan is yet under 25.

Settling the People on the Land.—In addition to the estates of Mr. W. T. Treach, Lord Guillamore and Lord Dunraven, which have been finally purchased by the tenants at terms extending from 12 to 16 years, arrangements are being conducted between the owners and tenants on the following estates in the parish of Abbeyfeale with a view to purchase. An application has been sought by the tenants on Rowland Batman's estate, and the matter awaits consideration in court. The Hartnett estate has been almost finally disposed of at from 13 to 15 years' purchase, while the tenants on Major Ellis's and Miss Nixon's estates have each submitted to the owners through their respective agents a proposal of 14 years' purchase on present rents. Should the sales mentioned be finally arranged there will remain in this parish, whose extreme boundaries are 10 miles apart, only a few small estates unsold. The success achieved by the tenants is principally due to the efforts of the Rev. Father Casey, the parish priest.

WEXFORD.—Death of an Enniscorthy Man in California.—The Los Angeles *Herald* announces the death of Mr Andrew Martin, 'one of the richest young men in the State of California.' The deceased came of a fine old Wexford stock, his parents being natives of Enniscorthy.

GENERAL.

The Irish Judicature.—Commenting on the proposal to appoint a Catholic to succeed the late Justice O'Brien on the Irish Bench, the *Leeds Mercury* says:—'Nothing in connection with Irish judicature is more remarkable than the way in which Protestants have displaced Roman Catholics. About a quarter of a century ago there were ten Roman Catholic Judges to seven Protestants. Since then the proportions gradually altered, until in 1886 there were twice as many Protestant Judges as Roman Catholics. At the present time the Protestant ascendancy is even more marked, and if a Roman Catholic is not appointed to succeed Mr. Justice O'Brien the Protestants will be in a majority of 15 to three. It is certainly not desirable that an impression should be created that Roman Catholicism is a bar to advancement in the legal profession in Ireland. Successive Tory Governments have done their best to produce, unfortunately, such an impression by elevating to the Bench barristers who are mere party hacks, and by boycotting men of brilliant forensic abilities because they are Home Rulers. And yet we profess to wonder why the Irish do not love English rule.'

The Irish Catholic Truth Society.—The Catholic Truth Society of Ireland has completed its organisation. A general committee representative of the whole of the country is in process of formation. In an address issued by the Society to the clergy and laity of Ireland, the committee says: 'The Catholic Truth Society of England has, for several years past, been doing excellent work of this character, not only in Great Britain but in this country also—a fact which we gratefully recognise. We intend to co-operate cordially with its members, who have already given us valuable guidance and assistance. But in literature as in other things every people has its own national needs and tastes, for which native sources alone can make adequate provision. In undertaking to carry on the work of this Catholic Truth Society of Ireland, the managing committee most earnestly solicit the cordial co-operation of all their fellow-countrymen, but particularly of the clergy and of the influential Catholic laymen, without whose assistance we could never hope to make this project a permanent success.'

The Religion of the Irish Bar.—An unofficial religious census of the members of the Irish Bar has been taken. There are, it is said, over 400 practising barristers in Ireland. Of these 253 belong to the various Protestant communions, 159 are Catholics, and one is a Jew. Out of fifty-six Queen's Counsel 16 are Catholics. If the proportion of each creed in the profession were maintained in the judiciary seven judge-ships out of eighteen should be filled by Catholics, whereas there are only three Catholic judges on the Irish Bench.

Marriage of Mr. J. E. Redmond, M.P.—On Saturday, December 16, at the church of the Servite Fathers, Fulham, London, Mr. J. E. Redmond, M.P., was married by special license to Miss Ada Beesley, daughter of the late Mr. James Beesley, formerly of Leamington. The ceremony was strictly private, no one being present except the aunt and sister of the bride. The marriage was performed by the Rev. Father Brugnoti, rector of the church. In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. Redmond left for the country.

Co-operation in the Dairying Industry.—The co-operative movement has done much for the Irish trade during the past half dozen years, but in no department have its effects been more noticeable than in the dairying industry. Here are a few particulars: 'One hundred dairy societies, exclusive of auxiliaries, furnished complete returns of their business. From the statistics it will be seen that the 20,814 members of these societies have invested no less a capital than £53,131, which is held by them in fully or part-paid shares. This share capital has been augmented by the sum of

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