

Irish News.

ANTRIM.—A Belfast Priest's Heroism—Early on Saturday morning (says the *Weekly Examiner*, December 22), Belfast was the scene of a splendid display of heroism by a Redemptorist priest. Father Lowham, in Clonard Monastery, was awakened by piteous cries from a large pond adjoining the monastery. The night was stormy, and the brave Redemptorist, unable to locate the cries, shouting out 'What's wrong?' an appealing voice came from the water, 'Quick; I'm drowning. Save me.' Lowham immediately threw on some outer garments, rushed down to the edge of the water, and there heard a faint sigh in the distance. In a twinkling, the priest had off his outer robe, and plunged into the water, about 10 feet deep and foul with the accumulation of year's mechanical works refuse. After swimming about some time, a few powerful strokes brought him near the drowning woman, who caught him by the throat band of his shirt. Both went down, but being an expert swimmer, Father Lowham succeeded in bringing the drowning being to the bank, where, with the help of other members of the community, she was drawn out of the water. After restoratives had revived the half-famished woman, she was conveyed in an ambulance to the Royal Hospital. The rescued woman, who is a spinster, arrived in Belfast from Lurgan, in search of work, and stumbled in the darkness into the water by the mill. A number of large mills are in the neighborhood of the monastery.

ARMAGH.—A Parochial House for Aghabog.—The Catholic people of Aghabog and district are about to erect a commodious parochial house to supply the needs of their clergy. A large and energetic committee has been formed, and with assistance of Father Cullinane, pastor of the parish, and his curate, Rev. P. Garmley, it may readily be entrusted with the successful completion of the work. The Catholic population of the parish are mainly composed of small farmers, but the whole-hearted assistance given in the past to every charitable work which arose in the surrounding districts, ensures for them aid now. The people of Greenan's Cross and neighborhood have promised support, and added to all the outside co-operation promised from the surrounding districts.

CAVAN.—Death of a Cavan Priest in America.—The last issue of the *Irish World* contained a notice of the death of the Very Rev. Laurence Smyth, pastor of the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Fort Smith, Arkansas, the pioneer missionary of the Far West. He was known and beloved over a wide extent of territory, and his work for the Faith in Arkansas and neighboring States would fill more than one interesting volume. Father Laurence Smyth was born in Cortober, County Cavan, in 1821.

CORK.—An Undesirable Visitor.—At the Cork Assizes. Roy Kraeglar, an American Anarchist, was convicted of having set on fire and destroyed hay valued at £600, the property of Captain Woodley, Coachford. The prisoner, who was arrested red-handed, resisted violently, and said he would stagger humanity. Chief Justice O'Brien, in passing sentence, said—You proclaim principles of anarchy, and you burned this property. Prisoner (defiantly)—I should have burned the house around him. He refused to give me socks, and threatened to break every bone in my body. I will make Europe tremble. Judge—Like others of your class you are full of vanity. Ten years' penal servitude.

A Well-deserved Honor.—The Very Rev. Dean Keller, the pastor of Youghal, is now Mon-signor, having been appointed Domestic Prelate by the Pope during an audience at which he was presented by the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, Bishop of Cloyne. This mark of esteem on the part of the Sovereign Pontiff will be welcomed with pleasure not alone in Youghal, but wherever there is an Irishman who takes an interest in the affairs of his native land. A model priest, a cultured and courteous gentleman, a sincere friend and wise counsellor, and a thorough Irishman, who, not content with giving expression to his national sentiments, took off his coat and bore his share in the fight. The manly part he took in championing the rights of the evicted tenants on the Ponsonby estate is fresh in the public mind. Not content with advocating their cause at home in Ireland, he crossed to England to plead for them in the principal cities. And his labors culminated in his being sent to prison by Judge Boyd, of the Bankruptcy Court, because he would not consent to reveal the secrets of some of his parishioners who confided in him as their pastor. Dean Keller was appointed parish priest of Youghal in 1885. He was then Father Keller. He was next elevated to the archdeaconship, and subsequently made Dean of Cloyne on the demise of the Very Rev. Dean O'Regan.

DONEGAL.—A Bird Visitor.—Ornithologists have been much interested of late by the appearance of the quail in Donegal County. The bird has been unknown in that part of Ireland for many years. The disappearance of the quail from Ireland is one of the standing ornithological puzzles of the present day. In the early part of the century it was plentiful, and no satisfactory reason has been discovered for its departure. Numerous attempts have been made to induce it to return, but the imported stock which has been turned out has always got away within the season.

DOWN.—The Vacant See.—The voting of the parish priests of Dromore for the choice of a bishop was. Rev. Henry O'Neill, Administrator, Warrenpoint, twelve votes; Rev. M. McConville, D.D., Lower Drumgooland, two; and Rev. Joseph Kearns, Hilltown, one.

DUBLIN.—Death of a prominent Dublin Lady.—With feelings of the deepest regret the Dublin public heard of the death of Mrs. Murphy, wife of Mr. W. M. Murphy, J.P., chairman of the Dublin Electric Tramway Company. Mrs. Murphy, who was a daughter of Mr. J. Fitzgerald Lombard, of South Hill, had been ill

for several months, and for some time past her recovery was known to be hopeless. She was gentle, kindly, and sympathetic.

The Catholic University Medical School.—At the meeting of the governing body of the Catholic University School of Medicine held recently Dr. M. J. Dempsey, Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Ireland, physician to the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin, was elected Professor of Materia Medica in the School. At the same meeting Dr. More O'Ferrall, Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, was appointed Assistant to the Professor of Materia Medica. At the first annual dinner of the students, Sir Christopher Nixon, who presided, gave some interesting facts as to the progress of the institution. For the decade of 1890 he had the following returns given by the Anatomical Committee. They had then in Dublin 77 students, of these Trinity College contributed 220, the Royal College of Surgeons 213, and the Catholic University 114. The return for 1900 showed that there were 422 students—a loss of 155. The return was a remarkable one, Trinity College had 141 of these; the Royal College of Surgeons 125, and the Catholic University 156. At present their school was represented by between 270 and 280 students. It was not unreasonable that they should give this dinner to commemorate the high-water mark of their prosperity. But their school was no longer suitable for the demands upon it. Next year, or the year after, they must have a new school of medicine suitable in size and equipment for the needs of their students.

Death of a Religious.—The death is reported of Sister Mary Gonzales Joseph, which occurred recently at St. Mary's Dominican Convent, Kingstown. The deceased Sister was the elder daughter of the late Mr. Denis Kehoe, of South Richmond street, Dublin.

The New Veterinary College.—It gave us great pleasure in a recent issue (says the *Catholic Times*) to be able to state that the Royal Veterinary College of Ireland had commenced its career with 31 entries among the freshmen students of the first year. As long ago as December, 1891, we expressed surprise at the anomaly of a country like Ireland, famed for its horses and cattle, not possessing a college where young men could be trained in the veterinary profession without crossing to London, Edinburgh, or Glasgow. A correspondence followed in our columns, where a number of writers showed the necessity and advantages of such a school to the younger sons of the Irish farmers, and to the interests of the country generally. For many years prominent Irishmen exerted themselves to hasten the work. Professor Ferguson and Lord Naas, then Chief Secretary for Ireland, tried hard, and nearly succeeded. Later the Rev. Dr. Houghton, the Right Hon. C. Redington, Sir Christopher Nixon, M.D., Professors Cunningham, Fitzgerald, and Carroll, and Right Rev. Mgr. Molloy worked persistently to establish this college. Their success was so great that in 1891 Mr. Morley, on behalf of the Government, promised £15,000 as a first aid towards the cost of providing a suitable and up-to-date building and fittings. The object in view is now at long last successfully accomplished. The college is just opened in commodious premises on Pembroke road, Dublin, adjoining the world-famed Ball's Bridge Horse Show grounds; in what is perhaps the 'hottest spot' in all the British Isles. We trust to see it energetically supported by the Irish agricultural societies and associations, as well as by private persons at home and abroad who are desirous of benefiting the live-stock interests of the country. It is in the hands of professors who are determined to make it a first-class clinical school, and the material is at hand in the 'most car-driving city of Europe.'

GALWAY.—Tenants Purchase their Farms.—The 161 tenants on the Blake estate, of Annadown, Drumgriffin, near Headford, have purchased their holdings. The estate covers an area of almost 5000 acres.

KERRY.—Death of a well known Solicitor.—The death of Mr. B. O'Connor Horgan, solicitor, occurred at Nelson street, Tralee, November 28, after a brief illness. The deceased was well known and esteemed throughout his native county. He was an able lawyer, a classical scholar, and had a great knowledge of Irish in which he took a great pride, and set his name to Tralee to forward the movement for the revival of the mother tongue. He was an ardent and consistent Nationalist, and was prominently identified with every Nationalist movement. The funeral to Kiltomey was very numerously attended.

Appointment of a Deputy Lieutenant.—The Earl of Kenmare, Lieutenant of Kerry, has appointed Mr. James D. Crosbie, Ballyheigue Castle, a deputy lieutenant for Kerry in place of Mr. St. John B. Douglas, deceased.

LIMERICK.—Tenants Purchase the Freehold of their Lands.—A settlement has been effected in connection with the dispute on the Conyngham-Ellis estate, at Kilsconley, near Abbeyfeale. As a result of the preliminary negotiations, a conference took place between a committee of the Limerick County Council, appointed as a sort of arbitration court on the one side, and representatives of the landlord and tenants on the other. The members of the Council were—Messrs. T. B. Mitchell chairman; J. O'Grady Delmege, Anthony Mackay and Robert Gail, Rev. Father Casey, Abbeyfeale, acted for the tenants, and Mr. Fitzgerald (the agent) for the landlord. In November, 1900, when the negotiations for the purchase of the holdings were commenced, the tenants offered 16 years' purchase and one year's rent, two years' rent being then due. The landlord insisted on 18 years' purchase, and the tenants refusing these terms negotiations were broken off and the landlord proceeded for the recovery of the rent. The outcome of this condition of strained relations was that the six farms were put up for sale in Limerick, and, although Mr. Blood Smyth purchased them for two pounds each in trust for Major Conyngham-Ellis, he afterwards