

Irish News.

CORK.—Death of an Ex-Mayor.—The death is reported of Mr. Paul J. Madden, Cork, who died at his residence, Blackrock road, in the early part of January. Mr. Madden—or Alderman Madden, as he was better known in the South—was a prominent figure in Cork public life for close on a quarter of a century, and occupied the honorable position of Mayor of Cork for two years—1835 and 1886. His term of office was by no means uneventful. During that period many useful economic works were perfected in Cork. The visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales to the city took place during the first year of his office. It will be remembered that Lord Aberdeen was selected as Lord Lieutenant of Ireland under Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Government in 1886. In that capacity his Excellency visited the city, and gained a very hearty reception. He was entertained at the Imperial Hotel by an influential body of citizens, and it is a matter of common knowledge that on that occasion the Mayor was offered by his Excellency a knighthood which he did not deem it dignified or consistent as a Nationalist to accept. This action on the part of his Worship won the warm admiration of the vast bulk of the citizens. When the split in the Nationalist ranks occurred, Mr. Madden took the side of Mr. Parnell, and remained a rather active and prominent member of the Parnellite Party in the Council to the end. In charitable circles the deceased was well known for his acts of generosity to the Cork poor.

DERRY.—Ordinations to the Priesthood.—On the first Thursday in January an ordination service was held in St. Eugene's Cathedral in the presence of a large congregation. Mass was celebrated at nine o'clock by the Most Rev. Dr. O'Doherty. Subsequently his Lordship administered the Sacrament of Holy Orders to Rev. John M'Shane and Rev. Michael Bradley. One of the newly ordained priests, Father M'Shane, belongs to an esteemed County Derry family. He was educated at the Irish College, Rome. Father Bradley belongs to a respected County Donegal family. He was prepared for his sacred office at Maynooth College.

DOWN.—Presentation to the Bishop of Kilmore.—The absence of Most Rev. Dr. McGennis, in Rome, was chosen by the laity of the Diocese of Kilmore as a fitting opportunity to make arrangements for the presentation of a carriage and a pair of horses to his Lordship on his return. On the Bishop's home-coming notification was made of the people's intention, and his Lordship, having signified his willingness to accept the offering, fixed Monday, December 17, as the date on which he would receive the committee of the subscribers. On that date the gentlemen nominated attended at Cullies House, and having made the presentation, for which his Lordship returned thanks, were entertained by Most Rev. Dr. McGennis at lunch.

KILDARE.—Naas Technical Instruction Committee.—Rev. D. Gorry has been co-opted a member of the Naas Technical Instruction Committee, in room of the Rev. Father Morrin, who, owing to failing health, found himself unable to act.

LIMERICK.—The Punishment of Boys.—Judge Adams, speaking in Limerick recently, referred to the suggestion of whipping as a punishment for boys. He said he would never be in favor of that system, which was an anachronism and a barbarism. It would degrade the children and the parents. It was a system of punishment which the national opinion of Ireland was entirely against.

A Wholesome Principle.—When dealing with licensing applications at the Limerick Quarter Sessions, Judge Adams said that a great deal had been said about licensing bodies throughout the country, but he should say for the Bench of the City of Limerick that they had never in his experience departed from the wholesome, conservative, and honest principle of not granting new licenses unless three licenses were extinguished. The result had been a great diminution in the disgraceful and extravagant number of public-houses in the town.

MAYO.—Stopping Public Meetings.—A series of most successful meetings was held in and around Foxford on New Year's Day. The police assaulted Mr. John Dillon, M.P., and behaved with great brutality towards the people of his constituency. An open-air meeting was held at Kiltimagh immediately on the conclusion of Midnight Mass on the previous night, and speeches were delivered by Mr. Dillon and Father O'Hara. The police authorities were completely baffled in their efforts to put down the right of free speech and public meeting.

MEATH.—The Diocesan Cathedral.—A very successful meeting has been held in Mullingar with the object of raising funds for the erection of a Catholic Cathedral for the diocese of Meath. The Most Rev. Dr. Gaffney, who occupied the chair, delivered a vigorous address, in the course of which he pointed out the great necessity that existed for a Cathedral worthy of the diocese. Continuing, his Lordship said that though they had the diocese they had not the people. They had a diocese rich in soil and yet so depopulated that they could not approach the people. What then were they to do? What he would say was—let them follow the people where they had gone. That was his answer. Though driven from their country, they were proud of the name of Meath and held it high aloft abroad; and he would say that those people, when appealed to on behalf of this Cathedral of Meath, would make a noble response. Dr. Gaffney's own subscription to the project he announced as £1000. The Dean of Ardagh gave £50 and the parish priest of Moate a similar sum. Letters of apology were read from the Right Hon. the Lord Chief Baron, who sent a subscription of £25; Mr. W. B. Molloy, Commissioner of National Education, enclosing ten guineas; Judge Curran, first contribution of £5;

Simon Mangan, H.M.L., Meath, sending £25; Mr. M'Loughlin, who enclosed £25 and offered to place the Culleen quarries at the disposal of the Bishop for the building, and Mr. J. McCann, M.P., enclosing a draft for £50; Mr. John Clark, solicitor, Dublin, £25; Rev. Father Everard, P.P., Batoath, £300; Very Rev. Father Farrelly, P.P., Castlepollard, £500; Rev. Father Farrelly, Ballymore, £200; Rev. P. Callary, P.P., Tullamore, £300; Mrs. Connolly, Charleston, £300; Miss Kelly, Mayville, £100; from the Provincial of the Jesuits, (Very Rev. J. J. Murphy, S.J.), £50; Right Rev. Monsignor Gaughran, P.P., V.G., Kells, £300, to be contributed in three instalments: Presentation Convent Mullingar, £1000; Loretto Convent, Mullingar and Navan, £1000; Convent of Mercy, Tullamore, £1000; ditto Navan, £500; Clare Convent, £300.

QUEEN'S COUNTY.—Death of the Pastor of Maryborough.—At the Parochial House, Maryborough, on Sunday, January 6, the Very Rev. Mgr. Phelan passed to his eternal reward. Deceased, who was in his seventieth year, had been in delicate health for some years, but continued to discharge his sacred duties up to the end. The Very Rev. Mgr. Phelan was a member of an old Catholic family of the Queen's County. After a distinguished course at Maynooth he was appointed Professor in Carlow College. Hearing of the want of priests in the Australian missions, he offered his services to the diocese of Maitland, and shortly afterwards went there. Towards the close of 1869 the late Most Rev. Dr. Walsh, Bishop of Kildare, wrote to Father Phelan, urgently requesting him to return to Ireland. In the following summer he returned to Carlow, and undertook the position of Administrator of the Cathedral parish. In 1878 he was appointed parish priest of Philipstown, King's County. From that parish he passed to Mountrath, Queen's County, and on the death of the Very Rev. John Doyle, in the year 1884, he was translated to the important parish of Maryborough. By his death the evicted tenants have lost one of their best friends, one who was ever ready to assist them.

ROSCOMMON.—A Tribute from the National Teachers.—A preliminary meeting was held in the National School, Roscommon, in the early part of January, for the purpose of organising a special tribute to the memory of the late Most Rev. Dr. Gilhooly from the National teachers of the diocese.

SLIGO.—The Pastor of Crossmolina.—The people of Crossmolina parish (says the *Sligo Champion*) have presented an address, accompanied by a presentation, to Mgr. O'Hara, their esteemed parish priest, on his return from Rome, whither he had accompanied the Bishop of Killala.

Presentation to Mr. McHugh.—A beautiful address and miniature silver sledge-hammer from the Nationalists of Sligo resident in Sheffield have been presented to Mr. McHugh, Sligo. The presentation was made by Mr. O'Dowd, M.P., on behalf of the Sheffield men.

TIPPERARY.—The Archbishopric of Cashel.—The canons and parish priests of the archdiocese of Cashel assembled in the Cathedral, Thurles, early in January, for the purpose of nominating a coadjutor, with right of succession, to his Grace the Most Rev. Dr. Croke. High Mass was celebrated by his Grace at 11 o'clock, after which the business of nomination was proceeded with, the doors of the Cathedral having been locked and the laity excluded. Under the presidency of his Grace a ballot was taken of the names selected, with the following results:—Rev. Thomas Fennelly, P.P., Moycarkey, *dignus* (15 votes); Very Rev. T. H. Kinane, Dean of Cashel, *dignior* (10 votes); Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, Bishop of Ross, and Rev. T. R. Power, Professor, St. Patrick's College, *digni* (six votes each). On January 17 a meeting of the bishops of the Province of Munster took place at Thurles to consider the names selected, and to forward them with their observations to Rome.

TYRONE.—Golden Jubilee of a Nun.—The last days of the old century witnessed a very impressive ceremony in the Loretto Convent, Omagh, the occasion being the golden jubilee of the Venerable Mother Anastasia, whose name is a household word through the north-east of Ireland, whither it has been carried by the alumni who have passed under the gentle sway of Mother Anastasia. She has spent 40 of the 50 years in Omagh. The Right Rev. Monsignor McNamee celebrated the jubilee in the Church of the Sacred Heart, and afterwards the priests of Omagh and Cappagh were entertained to a dinner in the Loretto Convent.

WEXFORD.—Successful Violinists.—The Sisters of the Loretto Community, Gorey, have been congratulated on the success of their pupils. At the examinations for membership of the London College of Violinists, held at the Instrumental Clubroom, Merrion row, Dublin, on the 14th December, by Professor Polonaski, three young lady pupils at Gorey Convent passed most successfully and became members of the college. Miss Margaret Casey and Miss Bridget Casey, of Bray, both secured licentiate certificates, and they well merit their L.C.V. Miss Euphenia J. Merder also passed with distinction, and becomes an associate of the college.

GENERAL.

Experiments in Tobacco Culture.—During the past year a series of experiments in tobacco culture under the superintendence of Professor Lecornet, and under the auspices of the Irish Department of Agriculture, have been carried out in Ireland. The results from 25 plots in various parts of the country tend to prove that tobacco can be grown as well in Ireland as in the north of France, and it now only remains to be seen whether the half-ton of tobacco leaves that has been carefully gathered this season will produce when manufactured a 'weed' of good quality.

The Land Question.—Mr. William O'Brien, M.P., has written declining to address a meeting in Cork on the land question in conjunction with Mr. T. W. Russell. Mr. O'Brien says that whatever